

UNRWA appeals for urgent aid

VIENNA (R) — The United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) for Palestine Refugees in the Middle East Tuesday urgently appealed for cash to save the lives of fifteen Palestinians suffering from kidney failure. UNRWA's emergency life-saving funds for the treatment of the 15 refugee patients in Lebanon will run out on New Year's Eve, an official spokesman for the Vienna-based agency said. The agency needed \$50,000 to keep the patients alive until the end of next March, he said. New haemodialysis machines needed and cash to maintain the treatment for a year would cost another \$15,000. UNRWA provides basic education, health and relief services for almost two million Palestinian refugees in the Middle East. But it did usually not have the funds to treat kidney patients, the spokesman said. The 15 were exceptionally allowed to begin treatment after the 1982 Israeli invasion of Lebanon, he added.

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Regent congratulates Kuwaiti leader

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Tuesday contacted the Emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, over the phone to convey to him greetings and congratulations from His Majesty King Hussein and the Jordanian people on the end of the hijack of the Kuwaiti airliner and the safety of the passengers after long sufferings at Tehran airport. Prince Hassan praised Kuwait's "courageous stand which foiled the terrorists' designs and aborted their blackmail attempts."

Hijacked victims return to Kuwait

KUWAIT (AP) — The two Americans and the rest of the hostages released when the hijacked Kuwaiti jetliner was stormed by the Iranians after a six-day ordeal arrived in Kuwait Tuesday to a ceremonial reception. They were aboard a special Kuwait Airways plane sent to Tehran earlier in the day to pick them up. Leading the group of official and public well-wishers was Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah, Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad, the Speaker of Parliament Mohammad Al Adasani and a large number of other ministers and parliamentarians. (Earlier story on page 2)

Dissidents to leave Durban consulate today

DURBAN, South Africa (R) — Three opponents of the South African government, who have taken refuge from jail by hiding in the British consulate here for the last three months, announced Tuesday they would leave the building Wednesday. In a statement issued at a press conference by their representatives, the three blamed South Africa, Britain and the United States for perpetuating the apartheid policy of racial separation and detention without trial in this country. "Having fought a very successful campaign against detention we announce our departure from the British consulate tomorrow at 4.30 p.m. (1430 GMT)," the statement said.

Yugoslav, Omani aides discuss Gulf

MUSCAT (R) — Yugoslav Foreign Minister Raif Dizdarevic Tuesday discussed attempts to mediate an end to the Iran-Iraq war with Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Youssef Ibn Alawi Ibn Abdullah. Mr. Dizdarevic, who arrived here Tuesday for a two-day official visit, told a news conference: "We talked long about efforts to end it... Yugoslavia believes we must take every opportunity to build the right conditions for peace." Yugoslavia, a founder-member of the Non-Aligned Movement, has been involved in efforts to end the war, now in its fifth year. (Yugoslavia voices 'deep concern' over Gulf war, page 2)

'Price increases not to affect people with low income' Minister says JD 14 million allocated for oil exploration

Government to cut subsidy on oil products, electricity

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham Khatib said Tuesday the government has decided to reduce its subsidy on a number of petroleum products and electricity within a rationalisation policy aimed at reducing the heavy burden shouldered by the government which imports all of Jordan's needs of crude oil.

Speaking at his first press conference since taking office at the newly-created ministry in November, Dr. Khatib said the Jordanian government has spent \$600 million on imports of crude oil in 1984, representing some 90 per cent of its total export revenues. He said in this year, the government paid \$92 million as subsidy for imported crude oil, the highest ever amount of subsidy money paid in the country's history.

Dr. Khatib said the reduction of the government subsidy, which will reflect in an immediate rise in prices of petroleum products, "would not affect citizens with

poor or moderate income but citizens with a large income who consume more petroleum and electricity."

However, he said, the industrial sector would be exempted from the burden of a higher cost for petroleum and electricity, mainly heavy export industries "which far the first time in its history, is beginning to aid the Kingdom's balance of payment."

Dr. Khatib said Jordan's exports in 1984 increased by 60 per cent from 1983 — "a quantitative and qualitative jump that should be encouraged." He said the "pricing policy" of petroleum products and electricity which will be

implemented after approval by the cabinet, would not affect trade activities in the Kingdom.

Dr. Khatib said the most important national project to be pursued in 1985 will be drilling for oil in the Jordanian desert. He said the government has allocated JD 14 million for oil prospecting and for drilling 10 new wells.

Jordan so far has struck oil in two wells in the Azraq area in the north-eastern desert with an estimated output of 1,300 barrels per day (b/d). Oil experts working on the site had told the Jordan Times the Kingdom can increase this quantity — through a chemical treatment, to meet up to one third of the country's needs for oil in a matter of two years.

Director General of the Natural Resources Authority (NRA) Yusef Nimri, attending Tuesday's press conference held at the headquarters of the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA), said the government has doubled its budget for oil exploration in the Kingdom. He said that initial results of the search for oil has encouraged the government to continue exploration next year, but he gave no details.

Dr. Khatib said the government hoped to find oil in commercial quantities by 1987 to help meet part of Jordan's petroleum needs, at present imported from Saudi Arabia and Iraq.

Meanwhile, oil pumped from the two wells in Azraq is being stored in special tanks to be transported by trucks to the Jordan Petroleum Refinery Company in Zarqa. The process started three weeks ago, Dr. Khatib said.

A study has been finalised to utilise black coal instead of petroleum to generate electricity, thereby reducing the cost of activating generators, Dr. Khatib revealed. He said there are also plans to start importing coal. The project in 1985 to be able to reduce cost by one third by 1990.

By 1986, the Aqaba thermal power station will become operational, reducing electricity cost for citizens there. There is also a plan to utilise solar power as another source of energy, Dr. Khatib said.

Reviewing other potential sources of energy in the Kingdom, Dr. Khatib said that Jordan has large reserves of oil shale which can be extracted in the future. The cost of

(Continued on page 3)

U.S. demands answers from Iran on hijack

WASHINGTON (R) — The White House Tuesday accused Iran of actions that encouraged the hijackers of a Kuwait airliner who murdered two American hostages.

It called on the Iranian government to prosecute the hijackers or extradite them to Kuwait.

"Granting selective media access (to the plane), broadcasting statements and screams of tortured passengers, permitting photographers aboard the aircraft, clearly encouraged extreme behaviour by the hijackers," White House spokesman Larry Speakes said in a statement he read at a press briefing.

Passengers and crew aboard the plane were rescued when Iranian security men disguised as maintenance workers stormed the craft Sunday night.

Mr. Speakes would not comment on suggestions that the rescue operation was staged to save face for the Iranian government, or that Tehran's revolutionary regime was guilty of complicity in the hijacking.

He said conclusions would be

Lebanon battles continue; leaders discuss peace plan

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Artillery duels flared south of Beirut Tuesday as political leaders tried to iron out a twice-delayed plan for peace outside the capital.

Local radio said militia fighting broke out in the Kharrub region north of Beirut's Awali River "front line" 40 kilometres from Beirut at about midday after a morning lull.

Militias have traded fire in the Kharrub almost daily this month, hindering a planned army deployment in the region under a new security plan.

Rightist radio said army positions at the village of Souq Al Gharb overlooking the presidential palace came under militia fire at the rate of three shells per minute, wounding two members of a French observer force.

A leftist radio said the army shelled mountain villages taken over by Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) militia last year.

In Damascus, the Syrian news agency SANA said PSP leader Walid Junblatt talked to President Hafez Al Assad about securing an Israeli troop withdrawal from South Lebanon and about Lebanon's national reconciliation process.

Leftists blast NATO pipelines in Belgium

BRUSSELS (R) — An extreme leftist group, declaring "war on NATO", carried out six bomb attacks Tuesday on the Western alliance's network of fuel pipelines across Belgium.

The Fighting Communist Cells (CCC), which launched a bombing campaign against NATO-related targets in October, claimed responsibility for blasts at a pumping station and four other sites on the pipelines which would supply NATO forces in West Germany with motor and aircraft fuel in wartime. No one was injured.

The Belgian Defence Ministry confirmed five "sabotage acts" and an officer said bomb disposal experts were sent to a sixth location named in a CCC statement found in a Brussels newspaper's mailbox after a telephone tipoff.

The pipelines were unguarded, the ministry said.

The CCC statement, delivered to the newspaper La Cite, said: "War on NATO has become the principle aim of our movement."

It carried the organisation's red and white star emblem and a photograph of one of Tuesday's targets.



Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham Khatib (second from left) Tuesday addresses a press conference attended by Natural Resources Authority Director-General Youssef Al Nimri (left), Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) Acting Director-General Walid Ja'ouni (second from right) and JEA Public Relations Director Marzouq Hadid (Petra photo)

U.S. should do more to seek Mideast peace, Masri says

By John Rice
The Associated Press

AMMAN — Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri said Tuesday the United States should do more to seek Middle East peace, and said it would be "a terrible idea" to ignore the wider Arab-Israeli conflict while concentrating on Lebanon.

"We are not seeing enough activity concerning the Middle East on the American scene," Mr. Masri said in an interview with the Associated Press.

"The only activity that the American administration is doing is towards Israel," he added. "They receive Israeli officials, they sign agreements, they promise aid and so on. So it is a very one-sided activity."

King Hussein has said that the Soviet Union and other nations also must be involved in the Middle East peace process because U.S. support for Israel has ruled it out as a fair-minded, lone mediator.

Mr. Masri noted that U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy was touring the region to discuss the withdrawal of Israel's 17,000-man occupation force from South Lebanon.

"Certainly it would be a terrible idea if they (the Americans) concentrate only on this issue and ignore efforts to resolve the over-

all Arab-Israeli conflict, he said. He also said that Jordan would not completely rule out U.S. President Ronald Reagan's now-dormant 1982 Middle East proposal, which called for Jordanian-Israeli talks aimed at a Palestinian self-rule in association with Jordan on the West Bank.

"We will not rule anything out," Mr. Masri said. "Our aim is to reach a just and peaceful and comprehensive solution" to the Palestinian problem. But, he added, "as it is today, the international conference is the best practical way to start negotiations."

King Hussein has been calling for such a conference, which would bring together all of the countries in the region plus representatives of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council.

The United States and Israel have rejected the proposal, and Israel also has rejected the Reagan plan.

Mr. Masri said he hoped broad European and Middle East acceptance of the idea would lead the United States and its ally, Israel, to approve.

The possibility of American acceptance of the idea "is not dead in our minds, not completely dead," he said. "I think one day we will be able to convince them."

Jordan hopes such a conference would lead to creation of a Palestinian state affiliated with Jordan on the territories occupied by Israel in the 1967 Arab-Israeli war in return for peace.

Mr. Masri said that if Mr. Reagan wanted to revive his own plan "then Mr. Reagan has to do something concerning the plan, and the best thing to do is to start talking to the Israelis about it."

He continued: "We welcome an active role, and we encourage it. We demand an active role from the United States, whether it's through his (Mr. Reagan's) initiative or a renewed one or other new ideas... but I want to see something credible."

Mr. Masri also said he would not rule out a joint Jordanian-Palestinian negotiating team as proposed during discussions of the Reagan plan to overcome Israel's refusal to deal with the PLO.

But he added that such an approach would first have to be approved by the PLO.

Mr. Masri reiterated that Jordan would not negotiate with Israel alone — an idea frequently suggested by Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

"I cannot neglect Syria," he said in a reference to Syria's loss of the Golan Heights — an idea frequently suggested by Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

"We cannot neglect the Palestinians."

Andreotti says West should not miss second chance in Middle East

ROME (R) — Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti was quoted Tuesday as saying the West missed an historic chance to break the stalemate in the Arab-Israeli conflict in 1982 and must not make the same mistake again.

Writing in the magazine L'Europeo, Mr. Andreotti defended a meeting between himself, Prime Minister Bettino Craxi and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat in Tunis last Thursday which has been criticised by Israel and Italian members of parliament.

He said such views "do not take account of a reality which is changing, and which must not be thwarted a second time."

Mr. Andreotti said the West had missed a historic chance to unlock the Middle East situation in 1982 when all Arab states were ready to accept the peace proposals drawn up by the Arab summit at Fez which recognised Israel.

He said the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) had now again chosen a peaceful solution rather than a renewal of hostilities. "Not to explore, encourage and favour this path would be even more fraught with risk than two years ago," Mr. Andreotti said.

Mr. Craxi has also defended his meeting with Mr. Arafat saying that it established that the PLO has adopted a moderate line at a meeting of the Palestine National Council (PNC) in Amman.

Fateh, DFLP begin talks on inter-PLO differences

By Hamadeh Al Faraneh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Intensified contacts between Palestinian groups took place over the past few days aimed at resuming inter-Palestinian dialogue and unifying the work of Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) institutions.

The first such meeting to take place since the holding of the Palestine National Council (PNC) session in Amman was that between a team from Fateh, the mainstream PLO group, led by Khalil Al Wazir (Abu Jihad), and a delegation from the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP).

The two sides made an assessment of the Palestinian situation in general in the light of the PNC meeting last month which was held without the participation of the DFLP and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) and also a number of independent Palestinian figures including a group of 36 led by Ibrahim Bakr who called for the postponement of the PNC meeting.

Fateh and the DFLP delegation stressed the importance of res-

uming the national Palestinian dialogue between the Fateh Central Committee and delegates from the so-called "democratic alliance" that includes the DFLP and PFLP and the Communist Party.

At the talks, Fateh stressed its adherence to an inter-Palestinian dialogue and called on the DFLP and PFLP to take part in the meetings of the PLO's Executive Committee.

The DFLP stressed the importance of holding another PNC meeting to group all factions in the coming few months in which all forces and groups can be represented.

The two sides also made contacts with Palestinian leaders in Amman, Damascus and Tunis and agreement has been reached on holding a meeting of both Fateh and the DFLP central committees in an Arab capital following Fateh's Central Committee meeting scheduled for next week.

PFLP political bureau member Azmi Al Khawaja said in a statement to the Jordan Times that the PFLP will end all its political and information cooperation with the "national alliance."

Gandhi accuses Sri Lanka of attacking Indian boats

NEW DELHI (R) — Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi accused Sri Lanka Tuesday of attacking Indian fishermen and said its security forces were guilty of indiscriminate killing.

Mr. Gandhi said in a strongly worded statement, his first since the latest offensive by Tamil separatist guerrillas in Sri Lanka, that he was deeply concerned that the situation there had rapidly det-

eriorated.

"There is a sharp escalation of violence in the northern and eastern provinces in which heavy loss of innocent lives has taken place," he said.

"Many Tamils of Indian origin who had settled in these areas are among the victims. The security forces are indulging in indiscriminate killing."

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Kuwaiti plane leaves Tehran with freed hijack hostages

KUWAIT (R) — A Kuwaiti aircraft left Tehran with the remaining passengers and crew held in a six-day hijack drama at Tehran Airport, Kuwaiti officials said.

They said the plane was on its way back to Kuwait with the freed hostages from the Kuwait Airways Airbus, hijacked on a flight from the Gulf to Pakistan a week ago.

Two Americans were killed by four Arab hijackers before Iranian security men snatched the Airbus on Sunday night.

Informed sources said a U.S. military aircraft with medical facilities was on its way to Kuwait from Wiesbaden in West Germany to fetch two Americans among the 15 or so released hostages being flown here.

The sources said New York businessman John Costa and Charles Kaper, an official with the U.S. Agency for International Development,

were expected to fly to Frankfurt Tuesday night aboard the American plane.

In Tehran, Reuters correspondent Trevor Wood reported that Iran's revolutionary leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini had denied any Iranian involvement in the hijack.

In his first public speech for nearly five weeks, Khomeini said other countries still accused Iran of having had a hand in the hijack despite the fact it "was condemned by all Iranian officials and solved in a satisfactory way."

The speech to a gathering of senior Iranian officials on the anniversary of the birth of the Prophet Muhammad was recorded and

carried later by Tehran Radio.

He said the accusations against Iran showed other countries were apprehensive.

"If this hijack had been the other way, and had been solved in this way, you would have seen what a noise would have been made in the world about how well it had been handled," he said.

The aircraft which left for Tehran Tuesday had been due to depart Monday, but bureaucratic snags delayed the flight.

It is carrying doctors and a team of engineers and technicians who will inspect damage to the hijacked airliner and make plans for its return.

The Kuwaiti newspaper Al Anba meantime reported that nine of the four hijackers, who took over the aircraft after takeoff from Dubai, had collapsed from tension during the six-day drama.

Most of the hostages collapsed under strain and had to be treated

with tranquillisers, it quoted one of the released passengers, Mohammad Sajed Patel, as saying from Tehran.

"I was threatened to be shot at one stage, but they (the hijackers) became soft when I cured one of them who also collapsed," he said.

The English-language Arab Times said it regretted that the Kuwaiti press had withheld from the public vital details of the hijacking, including the hijackers' demands.

"I had hoped that people here would be told everything about the hijacking, including the communication from the hijackers, because everything will be published one day and will cease to be a secret," an editorial writer commented.

"We were somewhat cautious in publishing the news, and I wish this had not been the case," he added.



One of the passengers of the hijacked Kuwaiti Airbus laid on the stretcher is carried aboard a plane (AP wirephoto)

Yugoslavia expresses 'deep concern' over continuation of Iran-Iraq war

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia (AP) — President Veselin Djuranovic of Yugoslavia on Monday returned from an official visit to Kuwait. Both nations earlier in the day expressed "deep concern" over the continuation of the 50-month-old war between Iran and Iraq.

In an airport statement Mr. Djuranovic said he was satisfied with the attitude taken by Kuwaiti leaders in the talks which focused on economic cooperation and problems in the Non-Aligned Movement.

Mr. Djuranovic and the Emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad, during two days of talks here "underscored the necessity of ending the Gulf conflict in line with the spirit of the Non-Aligned Movement and the U.N. Charter," Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs, Abdul Aziz Hussein, told reporters.

He made his statement shortly before Mr. Djuranovic flew home

at the end of a three-day visit here during which he held sessions of talks with the Emir and ranking government officials.

Mr. Hussein did not say if the two sides, members of the Non-Aligned Movement, had discussed any specific action to end the conflict.

Yugoslavia has been leading non-aligned nations efforts to mediate a settlement between the warring countries, but without success.

Mr. Djuranovic was the first Yugoslav president to visit Kuwait since 1979.

Mr. Hussein said that the talks also dealt at length with means of broadening economic cooperation between Kuwait and Yugoslavia. The two leaders, he said, also discussed ways of consolidating the non-aligned nations bloc as a "basic element in safeguarding world peace and security."

The talks focused on the latest developments in the Arab-Israeli

conflict and ways of redressing the Palestinians, added Mr. Hussein without elaborating.

The Kuwait News Agency meanwhile quoted Mr. Djuranovic as saying in an interview that an international conference was necessary for achieving a comprehensive solution to the Mideast crisis.

"Without that conference, there can be no use to any action toward a solution" in the Middle East, he told the agency.

He obviously was alluding to a Jordanian call for a broad conference of the superpowers, Western European countries and the Palestine Liberation Organisation in negotiate a settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The call for such a conference surfaced in the Arab World after Egypt was ostracised from the Arab League in protest against its 1979 peace treaty with Israel.

Sudanese, Chinese presidents hold talks

PEKING (AP) — Sudanese President Jaafar Numeiri and Chinese President Li Xianbian met for talks Tuesday following a welcome ceremony in which China honoured its Third World friend with a 21-gun salute.

Mr. Li told Mr. Numeiri that China approved of the resumption of U.S.-Soviet arms talks and steps to reduce superpower tensions, the official Xinhua News Agency said.

"We hope they will achieve results through earnest negotiations," Mr. Li said of forthcoming arms talks.

Discussions also covered the world economic situation and mutual help among developing nations — so-called South-South dialogue, Xinhua said.

Mr. Numeiri brought up the subject of terrorism, and called on China and all other countries to fight against terrorist groups, it added.

Before the discussions, Mr. Numeiri attended a welcome ceremony held in cold, foggy weather outside the Great Hall of the People. A military band played the anthems of the two nations and troops fired off the traditional 21-gun salute.

This visit to China is Mr. Numeiri's third. A state banquet in Mr. Numeiri's honour was scheduled Tuesday night.

Meetings with China's top leader Deng Xiaoping and Premier Zhao Ziyang are planned for later in the week.

Egypt, Israel discuss Taba issue

CAIRO (AP) — Israeli Ambassador Moshe Sasson conferred Tuesday with Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid in the second meeting between the envoy and a senior Egyptian official in three days.

Mr. Sasson told reporters the talks with Mr. Abdul Meguid covered bilateral relations and regional problems, including the Egyptian-Israeli border dispute involving the Taba area.

Mr. Sasson returned to Cairo from Israel a week ago following consultations with his government and had a meeting with Prime Minister Kamel Hassan Ali on Sunday.

"It was a lengthy and useful meeting in which we discussed ways and means of solving problems between the two countries as well as matters relating to the situation in the region," Mr. Sasson said of his talks with Mr. Abdul Meguid.

He declined to give details but in reply to a question said the topics included "Taba and other subjects."

Taba is a one-square-kilometre area overlooking the Aqaba Gulf at the southern end of the Sinai border between Egypt and Israel. Each country claims it as its own. The area's status was left undecided when Israel completed troop withdrawal from the Sinai peninsula under the 1979 peace treaty.

But Egypt and Israel agreed to resolve the problem by "negotiation, conciliation or arbitration" in accordance with treaty provisions.

Mr. Abdul Meguid told a news conference last Thursday that with the failure of negotiations on Taba, Egypt now was "ready for arbitration" and that it was awaiting an Israeli reply on this.

Foreign Ministry sources said Mr. Sasson's meeting with Mr. Abdul Meguid was at the ambassador's request.

Progress toward solution of the Taba issue is one of three conditions repeatedly stated by President Hosni Mubarak for improved relations with Israel, including the return of Cairo's ambassador and a summit meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

The other conditions are Israeli withdrawal from South Lebanon and movement toward negotiations on an overall Arab-Israeli peace settlement.

Mr. Sasson declined to say whether his talks with Mr. Abdul Meguid covered Mr. Peres' proposal for a summit.

Egyptian-Israeli relations cooled following the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in June 1982.

Promoting PLO cause President Mubarak's government can be expected to promote the cause of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) next year under a policy which Western diplomats believe is aimed as much at improving this country's image with the Arabs as advancing prospects for regional peace.

Western diplomats interviewed on condition they not be identified by name or nationality, said they believe the Egyptians see little chance for any meaningful peace negotiations between Israel and moderate Arabs in 1985 as long as the Israeli government remains divided on the question of trading occupied land for peace.

But by promoting the PLO's cause and by maintaining cool but correct relations with Israel, the Egyptians believe they can continue the slow, steady return to the forefront of Arab diplomacy without endangering their valuable economic and political links to the United States and the West.

"If I were responsible for Egyptian foreign policy, I think I would be following the same course," said one senior Western diplomat. "They have succeeded in

pacifying the Arabs to the extent that they don't cause trouble for Egypt internally while at the same time they (Egyptians) don't seem to have too much trouble either with the (U.S.) administration or on the hill," referring to the U.S. Congress.

"As for the Israelis, they (Egyptians) seem to have them just about where they want them. There's no threat of war with Israel, but no great warmth there either. There's really not much the Israelis can do at this point but accept the situation and continue to hope for some improvement in relations."

Mr. Mubarak is expected to make a strong pitch for a dialogue between the United States and Mr. Yasser Arafat, leader of the PLO, during a visit to Washington, which the president said is set for February.

Last January, Mr. Mubarak publicly urged the administration to establish such a dialogue following talks with President Ronald Reagan in Washington. The United States consistently has refused to deal with the PLO until it recognises Israel's right to exist. The Israelis, meanwhile, have ruled out any negotiations with the PLO and have refused to bargain with any Arab delegation that includes PLO members.

During King Hussein's visit to Cairo this month, Mr. Mubarak and the King repeated a long-standing Arab position that the PLO is the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinians, who the two leaders said had an "inalienable right" to determine their destiny "as they see fit."

Egypt also endorsed Jordan's proposal for an international conference with PLO participation to solve the Palestinian problem. Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres immediately rejected the conference proposal because of the role it would ascribe to the commando organisation.

Israel to reassess position on Lebanon pullout

TEL AVIV (AP) — Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin said Tuesday that after a Christmas break, Israel would reassess its position and "decide where we stand" on the future of troop withdrawal talks with Lebanon.

Mr. Rabin said Israel had not issued any ultimatum to Lebanon about the talks and added: "Of course, we have full confidence in the United States' desire to bridge the gaps that exist between the Israeli and Lebanese positions."

U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy is visiting Middle East capitals this week in an effort to break the deadlock in the United Nations-mediated talks, which Israel hopes will enable it to withdraw its army from Lebanon 30 months after it invaded the country.

The military-level talks, being held in the South Lebanon border town of Naqura, began on Nov. 8. Representatives of both countries appear to have spent most of the time discussing the role of the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) after Israel pulls its troops back to the international border.

Israel wants UNIFIL troops deployed in the northern half of the zone it occupies, while Lebanon would like to see UNIFIL along the border.

Israel wants the South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia it trained and financed to patrol the border area, while Lebanon rejects any role for the Israeli-backed militia and insists that its own Lebanese army be the main force throughout the South.

Ozal produces mixed results in first year as premier

By Paul Bolding
Reuters

ANKARA — When Turgut Ozal moved into the Prime Minister's office a year ago, he promised the Turkish people an era of change, economic hardship and an uneven record on human rights.

On the first anniversary of his rule this week, Mr. Ozal finds himself under fire from the public and some parts of the press over what is generally seen as a mixed bag of results.

A more hospitable business climate has helped boost exports, narrow a large trade gap and improve Turkey's international creditworthiness. Yet inflation remains stubbornly high.

Turkey is under attack from abroad for alleged human rights abuses, suffers strained relations with West Europe — where it believes its future lies — and faces a Kurdish rebellion in the south east which is proving difficult to contain.

Though shops are better stocked than for many years as imports of food and consumer goods fill gaps in domestic production, only foreigners and wealthy Turks can afford them and the gap between rich and poor appears to be

widening. The legacy of military rule is still evident and Mr. Ozal seems in no rush to reduce the influence of the armed forces.

"Prime Minister Ozal ... does not want greater democratic freedom because unemployment and frightening imbalances in the national distribution of wealth scare him considerably," said columnist Teoman Erel in the daily Milliyet this month.

Unemployment figures are not published, but commentators agree that the number is large and rising. Inflation, running at 49.8 to 56.2 per cent in the year to October depending on the indices, is well above last year. But Mr. Ozal claims it is falling.

In an interview with Reuters he cited an unpublished Istanbul cost of living index for civil servants which, if the July-November results were averaged out for a year, he said would show current inflation at 22 per cent.

Prices of staples like bread, white cheese and tomatoes have rocketed. "Every day Ozal puts up something," one woman said. Before taking office on Dec. 13 last year, Mr. Ozal won the nation round to his platform of change a year ago with the help of a television debate in which he emerged as clear winner.

This month he returned to the screen to promote the sale of revenue shares in Istanbul's Bosphorus Bridge, a scheme dubbed by some as a dangerous gimmick. "Ozal's monologues on TV could begin to be a liability to him rather than an asset," said Milliyet writer Mehmet Barlas.

But if the Turkish people voted for change when they elected Mr. Ozal, they have certainly got it. The bridge shares — buyers get the right to a slice of the tollgate takings — is the opening gambit of a plan that includes a sell-off of the vast public sector.

Turkish Airlines is due to be the first to go. But the extent of the sale after that is in doubt and statements by ministers and officials on the subject conflict. Other measures range from the dismantling of state monopolies to abolition of the television licence. New ideas seem to emerge almost daily.

On Nov. 1 Turkey adjusted standard time back one hour without advance notice, sparking confusion in areas from airline timetables to international broadcasting arrangements. European countries change their clocks on weekends to lessen the inconvenience. Turkey chose a

Thursday. Ties with Europe are strained largely because the Council of Europe and the European Community have failed fully to accept Turkey's claims that it has returned to the democratic fold, an issue on which Ankara is sensitive.

Mr. Ozal stunned diplomats in Ankara last month when he said he would no longer send ministers to council of Europe meetings. "In politics you never say never," one European ambassador said.

Mr. Ozal seems to have weathered the departure of two ministers from his government in October in the wake of a customs fraud scandal, which itself seems to have been swept under the carpet. But strains are reported in his ruling Motherland Party.

He is widely regarded as the most religious prime minister Turkey has had and some diplomats link this to signs of a Muslim revival. Others say what few signs there are, are insignificant.

Asked about this, Mr. Ozal told Reuters: "The Turkish people today have the values of Islam and they want to keep those values." That does not mean the democratic system and the secularity of the state are going to be changed.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

MAIN CHANNEL

17:00 ... Children's Programme
17:10 ... Agriculture Programme
17:25 ... Tomorrow's News in Arabic
17:30 ... News in Arabic
17:35 ... Arabic Series
17:40 ... Religious Programme
17:45 ... News in Arabic
17:50 ... Religious Programme Contd.

FOREIGN CHANNEL

18:00 ... French Programme
18:05 ... News in French
18:10 ... French Programme
18:15 ... News in Hebrew
18:20 ... News in Arabic
18:25 ... Comedy Series
18:30 ... Varieties
18:35 ... Documentary
18:40 ... News in English
18:45 ... "V" - Eps. 9

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM & partly on 9560 KHz. SW

07:00 ... Light Music
07:30 ... Newsdesk
08:00 ... Morning Show
08:30 ... News Summary
08:45 ... Morning Show
09:00 ... Pop Session
09:15 ... News Summary
09:30 ... Pop Session
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24:00 ... Pop Session

BBC WORLD SERVICE

675, 720, 1413 KHz

06:00 Newsdesk 06:30 Waveguide Report 06:45 Financial

06:55 Newsdesk 07:00 World News

07:05 World News 07:15 World News

07:20 World News 07:30 World News

07:35 World News 07:45 World News

07:50 World News 08:00 World News

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WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

* An exhibition of all water colour paintings, ceramics and wood carvings by Amman Arab and Mohammed Samara at the Royal Cultural Centre until Dec. 17.

* An exhibition of Islamic books at the University of Jordan Library.

* An exhibition of books on Western art at the British Council until Dec. 16.

* An exhibition of nils and watercolours by Nelly (Swiss) at 6:00 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre until Dec. 22.

* An exhibition of graphics by Yasser Dawid at the British Council.

* A caricature drawing exhibition by Najil Ali, at the University of Jordan's Engineering and Technology Faculty from 10 - 12 December.

SEMINAR

* Seminar about Jacques Brel at 6:00 p.m., French Cultural Centre.

FILMS

* Little Women, at the American Centre, 5:00 p.m.

* Kamikaze (translated into English) 8:00 p.m. at Goethe Institute.

LECTURE

* Dr. Paolo Costa will present an illustrated lecture on the latest archaeological developments in Oman, at 6:30 p.m., at the new lecture hall of the Department of Antiquities' registration centre.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre - Tel: 6610267

American Centre - 44371

American Centre Library - 41520

British Council - 36147-8

French Cultural Centre - 37009

Goethe Institute - 41993

Soviet Cultural Centre - 44203

Spanish Cultural Centre - 24049

TURKISH CULTURAL CENTRE

39777 Hays Arts Centre 665195

Husseini Youth City 667181

Y.W.C.A. 41793

Y.W.M.A. 664251

Amman Municipal Library 36111

University of Jordan Library 843555

MUSEUM

Rehder Museum: Jewelry and costumes from 1000 years old. Also movies from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel: 51760.

Lebanese Museum: Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1300 p.m.

Lebanese Philatelic Club: Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1300 p.m.

Philatelic Club: Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1300 p.m.

Rotary Club: Meetings every Tuesday at the Intercontinental Hotel, 2:00 p.m.

Royal Automobile Club: Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1300 p.m.

Eight Circle: Tel: 816534.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic): Jabbal Amman, tel: 24590.

Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic): Jabbal Lawehdeh, 37440.

De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic): Jabbal Hussein, 661757.

Seminar participants call for effective policies to combat rural poverty

By Rama Sabbagh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The president of the Arab Agricultural Engineers Association and professor of Agricultural Economics at the University of Jordan, Dr. Suleiman Arabiyat, Tuesday called for a down-to-earth approach to solve the problems of rural poverty.

Dr. Arabiyat, who was speaking at the closing session of a four-day seminar on 'Agrarian Structural Changes and Rural Poverty Alleviation in the Near East Region,' said: "How can we discuss ways in which poverty should be alleviated, when we ourselves have never experienced poverty. We should be concerned with how to make the poor discuss their problems with the concerned officials, instead of solving problems on their behalf."

Dr. Arabiyat went on to say that Arab governments normally direct their attention to promoting the income of various agricultural, industrial and services sectors, but that they do not give due attention to the income of the individual. "Therefore, development plans should be organised in such a way as to benefit all sectors of the public, rich or poor, if justice is to be avoided," he added.

Mr. Salah Juma, Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) regional representative for the Near East region, told the participants that the FAO is ready to offer technical aid rather than financial aid if governments of the region are convinced to fight rural poverty and to alleviate it.

Mr. Hassan Nabulsi, president of the Jordanian Cooperative Organisation said that Near East regions should coordinate to promote agricultural production and programmes as the problem of agriculture is a serious and threatening issue to all the Near East countries.

Dr. Alain Richards, director of the Centre for Middle East Studies at Harvard University, told the Jordan Times that any policy should not discriminate against the agricultural sector. He added that most policies are best explained through class structures: who is in charge and who has assets.

Dr. Richards also said that in order to reform policies, planners should find areas where the policy is in the interests of the rural people and which is of interest to the rich. The poor people are helping

the rich people to become richer because the poor often do all the work for the benefit of the rich, he added.

Concerning rural women, Dr. Richards said that the problem of rural women was brought up at the seminar in terms of their illiteracy. He said that the participants were totally convinced that if the women became literate, birth rates would go down and thereby food imports would decrease which, in turn would create a more stable economic and political situation.

Professor Taylor from the Institute of Agricultural Economics in Oxford told the Jordan Times that the objectives of this seminar are to examine policies, programmes and projects concerning the agrarian structural changes and rural poverty alleviation that have been followed by the Near East governments with a view of combining growth in the national incomes. He said that many suggestions for improving these policies and programmes have been suggested including the belief that agrarian reform is an essential part of the development process, but many factors are involved. "With certain adjustments to current policies, it should be possible to combine equity, efficiency and growth and thus alleviate the rural poverty," Dr. Taylor concluded.

Dr. Samir Radwan, a senior economist at the FAO Rural Employment Policy and Employment Department, told the Jordan Times that much more emphasis should be given to people's participation in the process of decision making which, he said, will involve a two-way dialogue process between members of the national community and the government.

Dr. Radwan also said that he has outlined a number of policy options if any government is interested in combatting poverty.

"Assuming that poverty is our target and the alleviation of it is the objective, some elements of an anti-rural poverty approach could include the efficiency equity ratio which is the redistribution and reduction of poverty in a sustained manner, delivery systems and policy responses to international shocks," he said.

Conclusions from this seminar stressed the fact that economic growth constitutes one major essential factor for eliminating rural poverty but that this is not enough in itself. The development model,

with its structural characteristics, is adopted in most countries of the region but does not make enough use of the economic surplus, including the agricultural surplus, a surplus that was responsible to a large extent for the persistence and aggravation of rural poverty, participants said. Also the lack of structural changes in land tenure systems, in the distribution of production assets, in terms of local and international trade, in public expenditure and in investment remains to be at the head of the responsible factors of rural poverty.

The discussions at the seminar pointed out that poverty in the Near East region is also no longer confined to the rural areas and that it has started to move to the urban areas. Participants added that some negative phenomena such as bureaucracy and corruption render poverty eradication efforts much more difficult and complex.

The participants also concluded that if the rural poor are given the opportunities of effective participation, they could play a positive and active role in the success of the objectives of the development policies and strategies.

Another problem of rural poverty is the fact that the absence of effective popular organisations constitutes another obstacle in reaching the poor. Some popular organisations, with the cooperatives at the head, confront many problems because a lot of these cooperatives in many parts of the region are either restricted or established by governmental decisions.

The participants also insisted that there should be a measure of coordination and integration between rural activities and the activities of the industrial and commercial sectors. Participants also noted that objective, realistic, demographic and decent realised agricultural planning should be considered as an essential means for the rural development process, and that planning, follow-up and evaluation processes should be the joint responsibility of local leadership and central governments.

The seminar was organised by the FAO Technical Assistance Programme in cooperation with the JCO and the Jordan Cooperative Institute (JCI). Twenty-five experts and scholars from 13 different countries attended the seminar.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Obeidat receives Algerian minister

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat Tuesday reviewed with the visiting Algerian Minister of Transport and Communications Saleh Kojil the close cooperation between Jordan and Algeria in the fields of transport and communications. Attending the meeting were Minister of Transport Farbi Obeid and the Algerian Ambassador to Jordan Abdul Rahman Sbarit.

Jordanian tourist plunges to his death

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP) — A Jordanian tourist plunged eleven stories from a downtown Bangkok hotel Monday in an apparent suicide, police reported Tuesday. Police identified the man as Hisham El Budeiri, 33, who checked into the hotel on Dec. 7.

Committee asks 17 workers to leave

AMMAN (Petra) — The Labour Ministry Tuesday announced that it has asked 17 non-Jordanian workers to leave the country at the end of their contracts or because they violated the regulations and principles of the Labour Law. The announcement was made at a meeting of the employment committee chaired at the ministry by Minister of Labour and Social Development Tayseer Abdul Jabbar. The announcement said that the committee reviewed applications submitted by companies and public organisations for the employment of 866 non-Jordanian workers, and has approved the employment of only 51 workers.

Municipality removes Wadi Saqra circle

AMMAN (Petra) — Amman Municipality has decided to dispose of Wadi Saqra Circle and to replace it with traffic lights which, the municipality said, would facilitate traffic flow in the Shmeisani district. A municipality statement said that teams from the municipality have uprooted plants from the centre of the circle and re-planted them in another site in preparation for removing the circle, re-asphalting the ground and placing traffic lights.

Yarmouk to introduce new course

AMMAN (Petra) — The Royal Commission for Yarmouk University has given its approval for introducing a new course of study into the university's curriculum. The "Local Community Development Course" will be in two parts: a theoretical course designed to orient the students on certain aspects of community development, planning and local communities participation in voluntary work, and the second will deal with the practical side and is designed to bring about an interaction between the university and the local community.

Abdul Jabbar reviews centre for the blind

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Labour and Social Development Tayseer Abdul Jabbar Tuesday discussed with Sheikh Abdullah Mohammad Abdul Rahman Al Ghanem, president of the International Union for the Blind, means of consolidating cooperation between Jordan and the federation. During the meeting Dr. Abdul Jabbar and Sheikh Al Ghanem agreed to construct a new building in Amman to accommodate the Regional Centre of the Blind. The meeting was attended by Ministry of Social Development Under Secretary Mohammad Ali Wardam.

CVDB director meets World Bank team

AMMAN (Petra) — Director General of the Cities and Villages Development Bank (CVDB) Mohammad Saleh Al Hourani conferred Tuesday with a visiting delegation from the World Bank. Mr. Hourani explained to the delegation the objectives and aims of the CVDB and its programmes to develop local communities.

Hikmat presents gift to W. German envoy

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Culture, Tourism and Antiquities Taber Hikmat Tuesday presented West German Ambassador Dr. Hordmann Munz with a commemorative gift in recognition of his efforts to help Jordan develop its cultural and tourist activities. The gift was presented on the occasion of the end of Dr. Munz's term as ambassador to Jordan.

Ministry encourages stone fruit planting

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Agriculture produced nearly two million tree saplings of fruit trees in 1983. The ministry said that the saplings will be sold to the public for nominal prices. A ministry statement said that the country produces sufficient olives and citrus fruit and therefore recommends against planting any more of these trees, but the ministry encourages the public to plant vines, apple, peaches and fig trees as well as pistachio's and to grow more of the house plants and evergreens.

Jordan's 'stolen' antiquities may be impossible to retrieve

By Josephine Zamaniri
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — In recent years the Third World has made increasingly vocal demands for the

return of antiquities to their country of origin. Jordan, like other Arab lands, lost a significant number of valuable artifacts, many of which left the country semi-legally but unfortunately only few are of intrinsic value to national history.

The out-flow of antiquities started as a trickle during Ottoman rule and continued steadily until 1976 when the Antiquities Law was amended to forbid the export of Jordanian historical artifacts. However, by far the greatest blow to Jordan's antiquities collection came after the 1967 invasion of the West Bank and the subsequent Israeli theft of both contents and records of Jerusalem museums.

According to Nazmiah Rida, in charge of Cultural Relations and Schools Office at the Department of Antiquities, the only important Jordanian antiquity removed from the country under the Ottomans was the facade of the Mushetta palace. Given by the Turkish sultan to Kaiser Wilhelm II during his travels in the Near East, it is now housed in a Berlin museum. The geometrical and motif-patterned facade is probably around 1,250 years old as Mushetta, an unfinished building, is thought to be the handiwork of Walid II, the Umayyad Caliph.

Meshe stele

The historically important Meshe stele was removed from Jordan by the French consul-general of Jerusalem in 1865. The stele describes the Moabite king's triumphs over the neighbouring Israelites.

Arar opens symposium on pedestrian safety

Civil authorities, citizens urge immediate measures to reduce road accidents

By Sa'ad G. Hattar and Ella Naaralla
Jordan Times Staff Writers

ZARQA — A one-day seminar on the safety of pedestrians Tuesday recommended setting up a higher council for the prevention of road accidents with extensive administrative, legal and financial powers.

The seminar, held at the Army Officers Club in Zarqa, also recommended that municipalities enlarge pavements, especially in crowded streets, in order to afford ample space for pedestrians, and that pedestrian-crossings should be clearly marked to give pedestrians safety while crossing.

The seminar, held under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, also recommended that adequate traffic lights and other signs be placed at cross sections and junctions and that other safety measures be taken to safeguard traffic and to help avoid accidents.

A final statement issued at the end of the seminar also called for offering drivers more training in traffic awareness, distributing awareness pamphlets and broadcasting radio and television programmes on traffic regulations, fixing speed limits on all roads and assigning spots where cars can park for loading and for passengers to get off. Another suggestion called for introducing traffic awareness subjects into school textbooks.

The statement said that the total number of road accidents in Jordan between 1979 and until the end of last year was 48,316 of which 46 per cent were accidents which affected pedestrians. It said that material losses caused by these accidents were estimated at JD 61 million.

The seminar was opened by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Suleiman Arar who deputised for Prince Hassan. In a speech to the participants, Mr. Arar said that road accidents are on the minds of all governments, various researchers and scientists around the world. In view of the increasing forms of vehicles on the roads and the vast growth of population, dangers became greater for those on the roads and cause the death of more people than diseases, the minister said.

The Interior Ministry, Mr. Arar said, has been instrumental in preparing the new traffic law and has attached great importance to the pedestrian problem. The ministry is keen to give "all citizens awareness on the use of roads, whether in rural or urban regions of the country. In cooperation with other ministries and various organisations, the Ministry of Interior hopes to spread traffic awareness and get the best results, the minister said.

During the seminar Mr. Arar distributed prizes to those who excelled in a special competition for school children on traffic awareness prepared by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Road Accidents in cooperation with the

Ministry of Education. The competition was designed for the Zarqa schools as an experiment for this year and could be adopted by other governorates as well in the coming years. Taking part in the competition were several preparatory schools.

Zarqa District Governor Mohammad Al Dihri also addressed the participants saying that people in Jordan are one family sharing the same future and always endeavour to achieve development, prosperity, peace and security in implementation of the rules and principles laid down by His Majesty King Hussein.

Chairman of Zarqa Chamber of Commerce Ibrahim Taqi Eddin, who was one of the speakers at the seminar, said that the rate of road accidents in Jordan is considered as one of the high rates in the world. Therefore, he added, we should all work towards finding suitable means capable of overcoming this problem through cooperation between the various concerned authorities and the citizens.

Deputy Mayor of Zarqa Municipal Committee and Director of Zarqa Health Department Abdul Aziz Al Shraideh said that including road accidents and the prevention thereof is the main objective which we all aspire to achieve. Dr. Shraideh called for a large traffic awareness campaign and added that Zarqa Municipality, in cooperation with the Ministries of Planning and Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment, are preparing a comprehensive study geared at solving the traffic problems and organising the traffic in Zarqa.

Dr. Zuhair Malbas, in his capacity as chairman of the Jordanian Society for the Prevention of Road Accidents (JSPRA), thanked Prince Hassan for patronising the seminar and said: "We are still suffering from the road accidents and their human, social and economic impacts. We should face these problems and work towards ending these problems," he added.

The seminar derives its importance from the timing of its convocation following the large increase in the number of people killed or injured as a result of road accidents in Jordan. Dr. Malhas said.

During the seminar a working paper entitled "Towards a National Plan for the Prevention of Road Accidents" was presented by Mr. Nizar Al Abedi, deputy president of the JSPRA. Mr. Abedi briefed the audience on the large number of road accident in Jordan, especially among pedestrians. Mr. Abedi said: "More

than one citizen dies and more than 22 others are injured every day and we lose more than JD 167,000 as a result of about 40 road accidents every day."

Mr. Abedi added that the country needs increasing efforts in order to decrease the number of road accidents. He then called for establishing a special executive board to draw up a plan for the prevention of road accidents and to coordinate all the parts of the issue.

A representative from the Ministry of Education also delivered a working paper in which she explained the role of the ministry in discussing and improving habits, tendencies and values among the students by means of including a general safety course in the curriculum of the ministry. The representative then called for forming a committee for general safety to deal with all aspects of safety in schools.

Mr. Mohammad Ameen, from Jordan Television, delivered a working paper in which he said that Jordan Television has allocated special programmes concerned with traffic education but he added that there is still a lack of coordination with other concerned authorities such as the traffic department. Radio Jordan has also been broadcasting educational programmes to help prevent road accidents, said Mr. Shaker Haddad representing Radio Jordan.

Nabeel Sawalha, director of the Haya Arts Centre, called for including the subject "traffic education and road manners" in the school curriculum and to establish several driver training schools in order to educate both children and adults. Mr. Sawalha also suggested forming a special campaign and a week of pedestrian accident prevention.

"The major cause of pedestrian accidents is due to human error, according to a working paper presented by Mr. Ta'ar University. The paper discussed a number of issues including drivers, pedestrians and road designs as well as suggestions for reducing the losses from road accidents."

The seminar also discussed working papers from the Ministry of Labour, the Civil Defence Department, the Public Security Department and the Zarqa Development Corporation.

The papers pointed out the proper means of preventing road accidents and how to benefit from statistics in order to prevent accidents. One paper also discussed the safety of handicapped citizens on the roads and another suggested giving training to all citizens and students on the subject of first aid.

Another working paper was related to the doctors' role in pedestrian safety. The Civil Defence Department also presented a working paper on the role of civil defence personnel in providing first aid to those who are injured as result of road accidents.

Subtle, graduated images by Lambaz inaugurate Alia's new art gallery

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Inaugurating the new Alia Art Gallery, situated on the ground floor of the airline's offices on the First Circle, Jabal Amman, is an exhibition of the unique wax paintings of Farouk Lambaz. Unique in that not only are wax crayons a surprisingly little-used media, but also because of the way the artist manipulates them to produce subtle shades, which he then slices through to achieve a spiky, but hazy effect that blurs all outlines while blending and holding the whole image together.

The technique, which Lambaz has been developing over the last two years or so, and which he now seems to have perfected, transforms the artist's careful and well crafted literal renditions of Jordanian bedouin life (a theme which is certainly not as original as Lambaz's technique) into impressionistic pieces full of light and charm.

It is when Lambaz deviates slightly from his main theme, however, that his true calibre as an artist comes forward; for Lambaz obviously has an eye that can take in a scene, however fleeting, that has something new, something real to say. Like, for example, "The Misfir". Here a woman, dressed in traditional urban black, sits in an art gallery, surrounded by large, brightly coloured paintings. Her isolation, her distance and total disinterest in all around her reinforces dramatically the sense of alienation, the feeling that she doesn't, and will not ever belong in this strange abstract world, which she doesn't understand.

It is an image, like Kuram Nimr's steel wrapped sculptures that conveys succinctly, yet eloquently, the problem faced by so many people today — that of a too quickly changing world.

Another memorable image is "The Friends". It is not a scene that carries a message, simply one that embodies something essentially Jordanian. The focus of the picture is two young men talking animatedly together, but it is not on them that we are supposed to dwell. Instead, our gaze is encouraged to wander up that flight of stairs — so typical of the older houses of Jabal Amman — past the arched windows that pierce the wall flanking them, up to the mesh of overhead wires that lace

the blue, blue sky.

Because Lambaz can achieve very subtle gradations in tone and texture with his technique, it is one that works well on difficultly large empty areas, like the wall in "The Friends." For this reason Lambaz's paintings of buildings and houses and particularly of the ruins, found in Jordan's many archaeological sites, are especially successful.

Thus at a future exhibition of Lambaz's work it would be good to see more paintings like these and like the ones that give an insight into life here in Jordan and less of the more familiar images of bedouin life.

Also on show this week is an exhibition of the oils and watercolours by the French artist Nelle Roche. Nelle, as she signs herself, is in love with the French countryside which she paints in an impressionistic style reminiscent of Cezanne and Van Gogh, but which, because of her large rapid brushstrokes of confident colour, borders on the expressionistic.

Although she paints her native landscape in all its many facets, from the waves pounding and crashing on the rocky shore to isolated chapels lost in lush autumn woodlands, it is when those landscapes are covered in snow that Nelle really excels. In wild brushstrokes of pure white and deep crisp blues, Nelle captures the icy stillness and calm, the breathless hush of these scenes in paintings that verge on the totally abstract.

Nelle began painting seriously 10 years ago after completing her studies under an old master in Vienna, France. The first time she showed her work in 1976 in a group exhibition she won the Fernand Point gold medal and since then she has gone on to exhibit her work all over France. After this, her first exhibition in Amman, she will return to exhibit in Switzerland in the Spring.

The exhibition of Nelle's work, which is being held at the French Cultural Centre, will run until December 22.

Government to cut subsidy on oil, electricity

(Continued from page 1)

extracting crude from oil shale is not considered commercially viable, however. Experts predict that in the 1990's oil prices are expected to rise up to \$50 to \$60 a barrel which is when oil shale exploiting would be viable.

German experts who carried out studies on oil shale deposits in Jordan told the Jordan Times recently that oil shale found in the Kingdom is considered of the best quality in the world. Experts are continuously experimenting various technologies to reach the cheapest way to exploit oil shale.

Elaborating on the government's policy of rationalisation aimed to curb rising consumption, Dr. Khatib said his ministry, in cooperation with other concerned ministries and government departments, would start an information campaign today, Wednesday, through Jordan Television, radio and the press to advise citizens on best ways to consume energy.

Campaigns to raise the awareness among schoolchildren will also be carried out in coordination with the Ministry of Education. Needed funds have already been allocated for this purpose, Dr. Khatib said.

In the field of transport, Dr.

Khatib said the ministry will work to reduce consumption rates by limiting the speed of vehicles on roads and that concerned departments have been notified. The government will also raise fees on car customs and registration, mainly on large and luxurious vehicles with a large consumption of fuel.

The ministry will also work to encourage group and public transportation. It has called consultants and energy experts to study the economics and technicalities of public transportation.

In the field of industry, specialised experts will be appointed in cooperation with the World Bank to carry out studies on 10 major industries in the Kingdom and ways of rationalising energy. In planning for future industries, the ministry, Dr. Khatib said, will volunteer to assist any company or citizen willing to establish an industry by providing projections of the size of the energy bill. This will be in cooperation with the Ministry of Industry, he said.

In coordination with the Ministry of Public Works, Dr. Khatib added, the ministry will draw up standards for construction in which insulation materials would be used to preserve energy.

Jordan consumed 2.7 million

tonnes of crude oil in 1984 which meant that the average consumption per person reached 7.5 barrels while the world average is 11.5 barrels. Although the Jordanian average is below the world average, it is considered a lot higher than the average consumption per person in Third World countries which is five barrels. In the Arab World, the average is six barrels.

Dr. Khatib said the utilisation of energy to produce the gross domestic product (GDP) was too high as Jordan consumes 625 kilowatt-hours of fuel to produce \$1,000 of the GDP — a rate 10 per cent higher than world rates.

In the period between 1973 and 1983, Jordan's consumption of energy increased by 14 per cent while the world's consumption in the same period increased by only 1.2 per cent. The increase in value of the U.S. dollar, the currency with which Jordan pays its oil bill, "only made things worse," Dr. Khatib said.

Attending the press conference were also Acting JEA Director General Walid Ja'ouni, JEA Director of Public Relations Marzouq Haddad and a number of officials from the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources.

Dead Sea scrolls

Of most value and totally irreplaceable are the Dead Sea scrolls. Discovered in the late forties at Qumran in the West Bank, the scrolls are considered one of the great archaeological finds of this century. Presumed to be the works of an obscure dissident Jewish sect, the Essenes, the scrolls have thrown a new light on Biblical history. Their loss to Jordan is immeasurable. So anxious are the Israelis to retain the collection that all attempts by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) failed to produce even a micro-fiche of the museums contents.

What of attempts to return those objects housed in European and American museums and institutions? A great number of our exported antiquities are amply represented within Jordan and actually serve as good ambassadors in their host countries. However, Nazmiah Rida does not see an early return to Jordan for those objects of intrinsic and historical value to the country, such as the Mushetta facades, the Meshe stele and the Nabataean statue from Tannur.

Jordan's greatest archaeological loss, the contents and

Jordan Times

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Choose your evil

WHAT'S WORSE, a racist or a hypocrite? Good question. We raise it because of the remarks in Washington by United States President Ronald Reagan, on the 36th anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. President Reagan made it a point to criticise the apartheid policies of South Africa, saying that he felt "a moral responsibility to speak out... to emphasise our concern and grief over the human and spiritual costs of apartheid." Clap, clap, clap. Bravo. Hooray. Ronnie the Racism Fighter.

But something is not quite right here. Mr. Reagan's strong criticism of racism in South Africa strikes us as less than convincing, in view of the many years of strong, and rising, American support for Israeli government policies based on principles that seem uncomfortably close to the principles of racism and apartheid. In our view, the many areas in which Arabs have fewer rights than Jews in Israel are well documented, as is the history of Israel's application of draconian emergency powers in a very racist-like manner against Arabs.

The parallels between official, systematic racism, such as the apartheid of South Africa, and the less systematic, more subtle racist principles applied in Israel are perhaps too subtle for many of our friends in the West to appreciate. We are particularly offended when the president of the United States makes a point of condemning South African racism while his government is financing and defending racist-like policies in Israel. This is hypocrisy of a spectacular order, only slightly less disgraceful than the South African apartheid that is being condemned today.

One wonders: Is it now politically expedient for the American president to condemn South African apartheid, after Bishop Desmond Tutu has been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize and travelled to Washington? We will believe American professions of concern about racism when America opposes all racist policies in the world, including Israeli policies, instead of financing some of them.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: An anti-culture U.S. attitude

REPORTS SAY that Britain intends to withdraw from UNESCO (the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation) by the end of 1985. If it does it will be the first European nation to respond favourably to American pressure and accept U.S. blackmail. The United States withdrew from UNESCO when it found the organisation opposing Zionist plans of destroying all traces of history and culture in the occupied Arab land.

We understand that the United States took its step because of its hostile attitude towards the Arabs, and the United States does not deal with history nor does it like culture or civilisation. Instead of basing its actions on cultural and historical principles it has adopted an aggressive policy against nations. But as for Britain it is different. Britain has long experience in dealing with nations. It has history and culture.

Britain has no interest in leaving UNESCO except to please its American ally and prove to the world that Europe is entering the sphere of U.S. hegemony and serving as a ground for installing all types of nuclear weapons and all tools of destruction.

Britain, which planted Israel in the midst of the Arab Nation is now trying to encourage the Zionist state to pursue its inhuman treatment of the Arab inhabitants and continue the drive to destroy their cultural institutions, something which UNESCO has been set up to prevent. Britain is withdrawing from UNESCO to pave the way for Israel to continue its policies without being questioned.

Al Dustour: Israeli hegemonistic attempts

THE CURRENT Lebanese-Israeli military talks on the Israeli withdrawal from southern Lebanon are almost deadlocked because no progress has yet been achieved. The talks have been made more difficult due to Israel's intransigent position and its threats that it would take unilateral action if the Lebanese government did not accept Israeli terms.

Israel is proposing difficult terms for Lebanon to accept in a form of blackmail against the government of Mr. Rashid Karami who is now faced with a resurgence of factional fighting on the domestic front. The Israeli threats coincide with a new tour of the Middle East region and a visit to Lebanon by U.S. envoy Richard Murphy, whose presence is lending the Israelis further power to manoeuvre. This blackmail is designed to prolong Israel's domination on the South until it has completed arrangements for appointing agents to take its place and act for the occupation force.

If things go wrong at the talks, Israel intends to carry out partial withdrawal to save its troops from further resistance attacks. The only way to foil Israel's attempts and threats is to reinforce the Lebanese army and end the conflict among the various factions so that the army can be deployed safely in the South and so deny Israel a pretext for staying there.

Sawt Al Shaab: Israel seeks to 'stay'

ISRAEL HAS once again resorted to threats at the Naqoura talks over the withdrawal of Israeli troops from South Lebanon. Israel wants to impose its terms on Lebanon and is trying to force that country to forego sovereignty over part of the country in exchange for a partial withdrawal.

Israel wants Lebanon to agree to arrangements favourable to the Israeli troops and their agents in the region so that it can maintain its occupation of South Lebanon indirectly and at the same time avoid a world condemnation, and avoid further casualties at the hands of Lebanese resistance.

Israel has presented its terms at the negotiating table in Naqoura and has met with a firm rejection from Lebanon, and its leaders who have been trying to regain sovereignty over all parts of Lebanon which was invaded in 1982.

In view of Lebanon's firm position, Israel is now faced with one option if it wants its own terms to be implemented. It will withdraw its forces to new positions away from the densely populated regions, and to places which will be easier for planting Israeli-backed militia to defend Israel's borders.

It is strange enough to see the United States, which had arranged for the Lebanese-Israeli talks not taking any step now to stop Israel from having its way, well knowing that Israel's actions affect U.S. credibility and also affect prospects for peace in the whole region.

Nuclear capacity has limited benefit to Israel

By Karen Elliott House

DIMONA, Israel — From a road here on the edge of the forbidding Negev Desert, it can be seen glimmering in the distance. But a barbed-wire fence, no-trespass signs and sentries on hilltops keep passers-by at a distance. Even taking pictures is forbidden.

This is the Dimona nuclear reactor, the controversial centerpiece of Israel's nuclear programme, and a symbol of how one of the smallest of states has tried to come to grips with the deadliest of forces. Israel seems to have accomplished here over the last two decades what some other countries are trying hard to achieve today. It successfully eluded international safeguards and apparently developed the capability to build nuclear weapons.

Government officials proclaim that Israel won't be the first country to introduce nuclear weapons in the Middle East. They firmly refuse further discussion of the nuclear programme. But several Israeli leaders have proclaimed in recent years that their country has the ability to produce nuclear weapons quickly. U.S. intelligence officials have assumed for the last decade that Israel probably has produced a small arsenal of nuclear weapons on the sly.

Whatever the case, Israel clearly has advanced nuclear technology, and its experience may offer sobering lessons to other countries that think nuclear capabilities will solve their security

problems.

No open production

Israeli leaders have found that their nuclear prowess has had only limited value in deterring foreign threats. Even though Israel faces a disastrous economic situation and rising costs for conventional arms, there still is little sentiment in the country to begin openly producing nuclear weapons to ease the conventional-defence burden.

Some Israeli analysts do think that a prolonged economic crisis, particularly if accompanied by a "spurt" in Arab arms purchases, could tempt Israeli leaders into playing the nuclear card openly. One prominent analyst, Shai Feldman, even has written a book arguing that Israel would make the Middle East more stable if it overtly produced nuclear arms. The current policy of stressing only conventional military strength "brings us to the brink of economic bankruptcy," Mr. Feldman says.

But for now, even Mr. Feldman admits that he is in a distinct minority. Israeli officials generally think there would be high cost and only limited benefits in openly going nuclear.

"There is really very little we can do" with nuclear weapons, says Yuval Ne'eman, former Israeli minister of science and development, who insists his country hasn't actually "crossed the threshold" to weapons production. He adds: "All we can do with

them really is to create a counter-threat in case Arabs have them."

Suspicious neighbours

Israel's pointedly vague statements about its nuclear abilities leave many Arabs believing that Israel already has nuclear weapons, or at least the ability to assemble bombs quickly. Thus, Israel gets much of the deterrent benefit that it would expect out of a publicly acknowledged nuclear arsenal.

But at the same time Israel is able to avoid many of the unpleasant side effects that officials think would accompany an overt nuclear programme. For starters, open nuclear production would bring an international uproar.

Beyond that, an overt Israeli nuclear arsenal would generate far more public pressure on Arab leaders to counter with nuclear bombs of their own. The ambiguous nature of Israel's programme probably eases the pressure on Arab Nations to push their nuclear programmes.

And, in the end, Israeli defence analysts aren't convinced that an overt nuclear arsenal would allow the country to substantially reduce spending on conventional arms. They say Israel still would have to maintain nearly its same conventional army to deter low-level warfare, which is becoming more common in the Middle East, but which isn't sufficient to justify a nuclear response.

"It isn't proven yet in other

countries that the atomic option excludes the conventional option, or that, in terms of budgets and expenses, it really reduces it," says Ehud Olmert, a member of the Knesset, Israel's parliament.

Moreover, open production of nuclear weapons might put an end to a little-mentioned benefit Israel now enjoys in its appeals to the U.S. for military aid.

National Security Council staff member in the Carter administration says the U.S. has been inclined to give Israel substantial military aid over the years, in part to reduce the chances that Israel might openly produce nuclear arms and thereby spark a regional nuclear arms race.

Paradoxically, American officials generally think Israel already has a "bomb in the basement" — that is, a secret nuclear arsenal. "I tend to share the estimate everybody seems to share — that is, that Israel has some nuclear weapons," says Leonard Weiss, who studies non-proliferation issues for the U.S. Senate subcommittee on energy and nuclear proliferation.

In Washington, defence officials estimate that Israel may have made 20 nuclear weapons by now. Such assessments stem largely from analysis of two decades of activity at Dimona.

Friendly France

The reactor was built starting in the 1950s under a then-secret agreement between Israel and France.

nce, which cooperated closely in nuclear research in those days. Both Israeli and American officials say Shimon Peres, the current prime minister, guided the construction of Dimona from his position at the time as director-general of the Defence Ministry.

A comprehensive history of the Dimona plant in a new book by Leonard Spector, a non-proliferation expert at the Carnegie Endowment in Washington, says that France, besides helping to build the reactor, apparently also agreed to give Israel plans for its reprocessing facility to extract plutonium from spent reactor fuel. France also may have agreed to reprocess fuel from Dimona in its own facilities and to send extracted plutonium back to Israel. Meanwhile, Israel also may have quietly acquired some highly enriched uranium from a U.S. company during the late 1960s.

The U.S. apparently didn't know the Dimona plant was being built until the late 1960s, when an American spy plane reportedly discovered it. For a few years in the 1960s, American scientists were allowed to visit the plant. But the Americans weren't satisfied at the site, and the visits quietly ended.

In the early 1970s, the Central Intelligence Agency began circulating reports concluding that Israel had made some nuclear weapons. Just a few weeks ago, a Congressional Research Service study rated Israel as the country that seems most likely to begin test-

ing and producing nuclear weapons during the rest of the century.

Arsenal abuilding?

And a recent report from the Georgetown University Centre for Strategic and International Studies concludes that Israel will produce enough nuclear material to conceivably have an arsenal of more than 100 nuclear warheads by the end of the century.

The Israeli nuclear capability, if it does exist, gives the Jewish state a powerful last-ditch defence to use if it is being overrun by conventional forces. And some Israeli officials think that the nuclear specter helped persuade Egyptian President Anwar Sadat to make peace in 1978.

Still, the nuclear threat hasn't brought Israel peace. Indeed, Egypt launched one war, in 1973, at a time when it probably believed Israel could assemble nuclear weapons on short notice. Moreover, some military analysts think Israel faces a wide variety of dangers short of all-out war that couldn't be thwarted by nuclear arms.

"What do you do in a situation that is perhaps more likely, which is a war of attrition along a border?" wonders Mark Heller, deputy director of the Jaffee Centre, a strategic-studies body in Tel Aviv. The option of dropping nuclear bombs on an enemy in such a situation "doesn't wash, in my opinion," he says — The Wall Street Journal.

Percy's loss in Senate raises questions over rules

By Claire Spiegel

LOS ANGELES — The defeat of Senator Charles H. Percy, Republican of Illinois, in the Nov. 6 election sent tremors through the political landscape.

It was not only a political Waterloo for an 18-year veteran of the U.S. Senate who chaired the Foreign Relations Committee, it was a triumph for an obscure California businessman.

Setting up a residence in Chicago, Michael R. Golan, 37, launched his own advertising campaign, spending more than \$1 million on mailings, billboards and commercials depicting Mr. Percy as a chameleon who changed colors to match the political landscape.

Mr. Percy, who lost to Representative Paul Simon, a Democrat, by a narrow margin, called Mr. Golan "my biggest problem in the campaign."

Political observers still are trying to figure out who Mr. Golan is and why he spent more than \$1 million on a campaign 3,230 kil-

ometres from his California home. "I'd like to know where he got this money," said Mr. Percy's attorney, Dan Swilling, speaking of Mr. Golan.

The case also has rekindled controversy over federal election laws.

How much Mr. Golan spent is not clear. Federal election reports that he has filed show expenditures of \$700,000. Mr. Golan's attorney, however, said that his client spent more than \$1 million, and one of Mr. Golan's top employees said the figure was \$1.6 million.

Also unclear is why Mr. Golan chose to intervene.

Mr. Percy's supporters contend that Mr. Golan, who is active in Jewish causes, was part of an organised pro-Israeli campaign designed to retaliate against Mr. Percy for his stand on Israel and especially for his vote to sell airborne warning and control system planes to Saudi Arabia.

Mr. Golan, who declined recent interview requests, was quoted earlier by an Illinois newspaper as

saying, "That's a Percy-created smoke screen, that I'm part of some Jewish-Israeli conspiracy or Jewish-conservative conspiracy."

During the campaign, Mr. Golan, who was left by polo with a withered arm and an atrophied leg, paid for ads saying that he opposed Mr. Percy for a number of reasons, especially because he had voted against bills for education and hiring of the handicapped.

But Mr. Swilling said that Mr. Percy has been a stalwart supporter of the handicapped in both his voting record and his personal life.

Under federal election laws, individuals cannot give a candidate more than \$1,000. But there is no restriction on how much an individual operating independently of a candidate or campaign committee can spend to influence the outcome of an election.

Elections officials said that Mr. Golan set a record for independent expenditures by an individual in a single race.

In April, Percy supporters filed

a complaint with the commission charging that Mr. Golan was acting "at the direction of Mr. Morris Amitay," former director of the American-Israel Public Affairs Committee, who was working with Mr. Percy's opponent in the primary race, Tom Cocoran.

The complaint cited a letter in which "Amitay stated that Mr. Golan did not make a move without my O.K."

Mr. Amitay, a Washington lawyer active in the pro-Israel lobby, said that Mr. Golan was his client but would not comment on the allegations. He denied that he was Mr. Cocoran's agent.

Mr. Percy accused the elections commission of foot-dragging on the complaint and in August he filed a lawsuit to force action.

Last week a federal judge castigated the commission for not acting sooner and disclosed that the commission had recently opened an investigation after finding "reason to believe" there were violations of campaign spending laws. He said the commission's

"failure to take timely action" was "contrary to law."

Mr. Golan has not played an active role in southern California politics, according to local legislators, but he has contributed to at least 25 representatives and senators in other states who have supported Israel.

His principal business is Balboa Construction Co., his attorney said.

According to acquaintances, Mr. Golan travels frequently to Israel, where he is reported to have contributed to Hebrew University affiliates and where he has business interests.

Percy calls spending unfair

Mr. Percy said "it would seem grossly unfair" that Mr. Golan could spend \$1 million to \$1.6 million for anti-Percy advertising, while contributors to political campaigns are limited to \$1,000 each. The Washington Post reported from Washington.

He said there was "something wrong" in the fact that Illinois



Sen. Charles Percy

voters did not learn until after the election that the Federal Election Commission decided Oct. 2 there was "reason to believe" that Mr. Golan's spending violated the law — Los Angeles Times.

Foreign Relations Committee: More partisanship, less influence

By Leslie Gelb

WASHINGTON — The Senate Foreign Relations Committee, once the crown jewel of prestige and the focus for national policy debates, has almost become just another committee.

In many ways, the decline has reflected changes in the Senate as a whole: growing partisanship and ideological polarisation along with reduced power relative to the more disciplined House and the assertive executive branch.

This is the prevailing judgment among scholars. Senate staff members, administration officials and some senators, including committee members, as they await a decision by Senator Jesse Helms of North Carolina on whether he will assert his seniority and take control of the committee after the death of its chairman, Charles H. Percy of Illinois, in the Nov. 6 election.

Historically, the committee has been repository of considerable foreign affairs expertise and experience, but now only three of its 18 members have served on it for ten years or more, and half have served for four years or less. This turnover exceeds the average for the Senate as a whole and for other committees, and both of those turnover rates are unusually high.

Three of the committee's last four chairmen have lost re-election efforts in the last ten years: J.W. Fulbright of Arkansas and Frank Church of Idaho, both Democrats, and this month Mr. Percy, a Republican. That, too, exceeds the Senate average and tends to weaken the committee since a committee is usually no more powerful than its chairman.

To Mr. Fulbright, who held the post from 1969 to 1975, the chairman of the foreign relations panel is particularly "vulnerable to being identified by the voters with foreign issues and not enough with local ones."

For two decades, until about six years ago, foreign aid bills had been the legislative centerpiece of the Foreign Relations Committee's power. But the Senate has passed only one foreign aid bill,

since 1978. In other years, the necessary financing was accomplished mainly through concurrent resolutions controlled by the Appropriations Committee.

The Foreign Relations Committee has lost more influence than other authorising or legislative committees, both because of administration opposition to some of its legislation and because the committee is still considered more liberal than the Senate as a whole.

This less powerful position is a far cry from the 1960's and 1970's, when the committee was led by such Democrats as Mr. Fulbright and Hubert H. Humphrey of Minnesota, and Republicans like Jacob K. Javits of New York and Clifford P. Case of New Jersey. As most of those interviewed saw it, those men were moderates or moderate liberals with sufficient knowledge and standing to command national attention and the ear of administration leaders and to forge bipartisan compromises.

In the view of liberals and moderates, a takeover by Mr. Helms, who has strong conservative views, would serve only to accentuate divisions on the committee and differences between it and the administration, which now says it wants to move on arms control with the Soviet Union and negotiations in Africa and on other fronts.

If Mr. Helms forgoes the chairmanship next in line would be Richard G. Lugar of Indiana and Charles McC. Mathias Jr. of Maryland. Each is considered more moderate than Mr. Helms.

In past years, the committee was virtually the only national platform for senators to speak out on foreign affairs. "Jack Kennedy felt he had to be on it in the 1950's to pursue the presidency, not so Teddy Kennedy," said Richard C. Holbrooke, a high State Department Official in the Carter administration.

The committee was the forum for debating the United States role in the world in the 1950's, the Vietnam War in the 1960's and early 1970's and, throughout the 70's, for putting checks on presidential flexibility in foreign affairs, ailing

treaties on arms control and the Panama Canal and helping fashion the nation's new relationship with China. The television cameras and the front pages of newspapers followed its activities, but this attention has declined in recent years.

"Our problem in the last four years is that the Reagan administration hasn't done anything diplomatically, treaties and the like, except for making arms sales, that requires Senate action," one committee staff member said.

"And even in the Carter administration," the aide continued, "the cameras weren't there most of the time because the committee was not at war with the administration and there just wasn't the same interest in the issues or the process or their personalities to attract them."

Mr. Fulbright put it this way: "The only way to get attention is to hit the executive over the head. The only way is to appeal to the public with public hearings. We rarely had a majority of the votes. All we could do was to educate the public."

Conservative senators and staff members said that these hearings often misled the public and led to unfortunate legislation restricting Presidential authority. "We're not complaining about the absence of public hearings, and we're not unhappy about the fact that the days of liberal legislation are over," said a longtime conservative staff member.

Authorities such as Nelson W. Polsky, a professor at the University of California at Berkeley, and I.M. Destler of the Institute for International Economics, say it is very difficult to measure how the committee's power has changed from its heyday to the present. Both said the committee's influence had been generally overstated, particularly its power inside a Senate that has often found itself more conservative than the Foreign Relations Committee.

"Since the Vandenberg period," said Mr. Destler, "the committee has often lost fights on key issues on the Senate floor because it was more liberal and internationalist than the body as a

whole. But it was instrumental in shaping and anticipating the important national debates on foreign policy." He was referring to Sen. Arthur Vandenberg, Republican of Michigan in the 30's and 40's, who converted from a powerful isolationist to an even more powerful internationalist and helped take the Senate along with him.

According to standards developed by Congressional Quarterly, which publishes an authoritative weekly on Congress, the committee was at least ten percentage points below most other committees in supporting positions backed by most conservatives. The committee as a whole accorded with conservative views 45 per cent of the time in 1969, 48 per cent in 1979 and 52 per cent in 1983.

This, according to Thomas Mann, executive director of the American Political Science Association, followed the general conservative drift of the Senate as a whole. Although both the committee and the full Senate became more conservative, the committee remained more liberal than the chamber as a whole.

At the same time, the split between Democrats and Republicans on the committee over conservative positions grew rapidly. In 1969, according to Congressional Quarterly, Democrats on the panel supported conservative positions 39 per cent of the time as against 55 per cent for Republicans. The comparisons were 34 to 69 in 1979 and 25 to 76 in 1983.

This partisanship was mirrored and reinforced by a decision by Republican committee members in the late 1970's to hire their own staff. There had been one bipartisan staff, an unusual phenomenon in the Senate.

As a long time Senate staff member recalled: "The committee used to send out staff to study a problem in Vietnam or the Middle East. They'd both come back with a report on the facts and asking some hard questions about whether the administration's policy was achievable and if the committee would take this as its starting point."

"Given the sharp divisions and points of view now," the aide said, "this is impossible."

The more partisan staff arrangement is further accentuated by the fact that, for the last decade, members have been allowed to send personal staff representatives to the committee, even though most other Senate committees do not permit such an arrangement. These aides can attend committee meetings and hearings and act for their senators.

More so than in the past, in the last three years the committee could not come together on major issues. Partisan splits often led to deadlock or what members saw as weak compromises on disputes about Central America, the presence of the marines in Lebanon, aid to Turkey and arms sales to Saudi Arabia.

However, liberals and moderates on occasion did reach across party lines, as when Senator Nancy Landon Kassebaum, Republican of Kansas and Senator Christopher J. Dodd, Democrat of Connecticut, worked together on Central America.

Power has been fragmented within the committee, much as it has been in the Senate as a whole. Subcommittees were created or given added standing when Sen.

John J. Sparkman of Alabama replaced Mr. Fulbright as chairman in 1975. While Mr. Sparkman's successor, Sen. Frank Church of Idaho, tried to reverse this trend, subcommittees remain more powerful than previously. This has diluted the power of the committee as a whole.

To a number of committee members and staff members, these problems could have been contained if Mr. Percy and his immediate predecessors had been stronger chairmen.

Mr. Percy is widely criticised for being confused and vacillating. His defenders say he tried a balancing act between the Senate and the administration, "tried conciliation within the committee and cooperation with the White House," in the words of one supporter. But, Mr. Percy's defenders say, things did not go well for the committee because of White House opposition.

Senior administration officials, past and present, acknowledge unhappiness with much of the committee's work, but insist that they could not count on Mr. Percy or his committee. "Therefore, we had to shop around for another place to do our business," said one former senior official.

(Continued on page 5)

LETTERS

Azmi died for Jordan

To the Editor:

I want to express my admiration and my sorrow. I am a visitor to Amman from the United States. I have long been aware of Jordan's constructive approach to the seemingly impossible problems of the Middle East. I was not aware of the personal courage Jordan's representatives abroad must have because of Jordan's humane foreign policy. I was deeply shocked by the murder of Mr. Azmi Al Mufti in Bucharest. He died for Jordan, he died for a broader community as well — the community of mankind. For if the world cannot emulate the courage of Jordan, the courage to look hard problems in the face and approach their solution with intelligence, moderation and patience, our children will have no inheritance.

Mr. Mufti will not be forgotten.

Benjamin Lamberton,
Amman

Are the English going to spare the rod?

By Nassir Shirkhani
Reuters

LONDON — A small but vociferous lobby of British teachers believes it is on the verge of eradicating the deep-rooted — and for many children dreaded — tradition of caning in schools.

The time-honoured disciplinary practice of corporal punishment is employed in many British schools. Britain is the only country in Europe which authorises schoolmasters to smack children and beat them with canes or, in some cases, a leather strap.

But there are signs that the cane

has had its day. Scottish schools banned the practice after it was condemned as an abuse of human rights two years ago, and the government plans to curb its use elsewhere.

The Society of Teachers Opposed to Physical Punishment (STOPP), a pressure group with 700 members, says its efforts to abolish the cane are bearing fruit after a 16-year battle against old-style teachers and conservative legislators.

"Beating is counter-productive. It poisons student-teacher relationship," STOPP spokesman Martin Rosenbaum told Reuters.

But advocates of the cane insist lack of disciplinary measures would give school bullies unbridled zeal for violence.

In an unprecedented move in Britain's educational history, the government announced legislation last month to give parents the right to forbid their children from being beaten in schools.

Apart from STOPP's pressure, the decision was precipitated by the European Court of the Human Rights which censured Britain two years ago for perpetrating corporal punishment.

The court, considering a case brought by two Scottish mothers

opposed to beating, ruled that by failing to respect the wishes of parents who did not want their children caned, Britain was in breach of the European Human Rights Convention.

The court also ordered Britain to pay about 12,000 sterling (\$14,500) to one of the mothers whose son was suspended from school for eight months for refusing to be hit.

The proposals to curb beating sparked howls of protests from advocates of the cane, whose philosophy is contained in the proverb: "Spare the Rod and Spoil the Child".

The National Association of Headteachers attacked the move as "nonsense" and complained of "the inherent unfairness in applying the cane to one student and not another."

It asked what protection would be given to teachers forced to act to prevent or break up fights and said abolition of the cane would encourage hooliganism.

Protagonists claim the cane is used only as a last resort, but STOPP says pupils are beaten for such misdemeanours as wearing the wrong shirt or failing to do homework, and claims teachers overstep the boundaries of ad-

missible punishment. According to a STOPP survey last year, 81 per cent of secondary schools in England and Wales used the cane. The report lists 250,000 cases of caning and looks at the side effects of corporal punishment that are unforeseen when it is meted out.

It cites the case of an eight-year-old boy who had his finger broken while being caned and another of a boy who was paralysed in the hand. It maintains that a schoolboy shot himself five years ago after being caned repeatedly.

Mr. Rosenbaum regards the planned legislation as a major step towards a positive teaching atmosphere in schools and said beating only made violent students more aggressive and led to increased juvenile crime.

He said a threatening atmosphere inhibited the development of timid pupils and made them terrified of adults.

He backs his assertions by pointing to a STOPP survey of schools in Scotland which showed that assaults on teachers had dropped dramatically as a result of the abolition of the cane.

Male domination plagues Africa

By Osei Kofi
Reuters

NAIROBI — Piah Njoki is a household name in Kenya. Last year her husband gouged out her eyes because she had given birth to five daughters when he wanted sons.

He is now serving a seven-year jail sentence and the case of Mr. Njoki has become a cause célèbre. Kenyan women — especially the educated fighting for equal rights — see it as an extreme example of the indignities and cruelty African women still suffer in a male-dominated world.

Twenty years after most African countries became independent, African women still feel it is the men who enjoy the best of what the new world offers.

According to United Nations figures, women make up half the world's population and a third of its labour force. But they account for two-thirds of its working hours, earn just one tenth of the incomes and own only a hundredth of the private property.

The situation may be even more unbalanced in much of Africa. In rural areas, where most people live, women produce 90 per cent of the food, cook, fetch the water and firewood, take care of the children and aged and attend to every need of the men.

Very little of that work is paid. Kenya's women leaders caused a political furor recently when they passed a resolution at a meeting asserting that women suffered discrimination. President Daniel Arap Moi, ministers and party offi-

icials reacted strongly demanding proof of how the laws of Kenya victimised them.

The resolution was withdrawn, but one woman told Reuters:

"A glaring example is that polygamy is legal in Kenya while I cannot have more than one husband. I am not saying women should have one, two or three husbands. I simply want to see polygamy abolished."

At independence, most African countries adopted constitutions that made no distinction between male and female rights. It was equal pay for equal work and a wife could carry out any public business without her husband's consent.

But although there may be no laws pinning women to an inferior position, from the North of Africa to countries south of the Sahara, women have ended up woefully underrepresented in the political, economic and social hierarchy. Zambia has no women cabinet ministers, university professors or directors of big companies. Four women sit on the 25-member central committee of the ruling party, two of whom are restricted to women's affairs.

A recent reshuffle in Togo removed the portfolio of women's advancement from the only woman minister and gave it to a man.

Kenya, with a good reservoir of highly educated women, has one woman among the 158 elected members of parliament. None of the many government corporations is headed by a woman.

There are no women with full ministerial portfolios in Botswana, Comoros, Djibouti, Malawi, Rwanda, Somalia or Uganda. The handful of countries with at least one woman in a cabinet usually composed of about 12 ministers includes Burundi, Congo, Ghana, Madagascar, Mozambique and Zimbabwe.

Senegalese Marie Angélique Savane, head of the Association of African Women for Research and Development, says even the limited influence acquired by women since independence is being threatened by an upsurge of religious fundamentalism.

After 10 years of debate, Algeria last May adopted a family code that is a compromise of modernism and traditionalism. Polygamy remains legal, although a husband is allowed a second wife only in such cases as a first wife's infertility.

The West African woman has fared better than most.

In Ghana, Liberia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Togo or Zaïre, women wield considerable economic power. Most are literate, though they often run huge commercial businesses with branches in other countries. The retail trade, fishing and private urban transport in Ghana are virtually the preserves of women.

Economic power has given West African women a political and social clout which peaked in the 1960s and early 1970s.

Then there were fewer military juntas, and women were looked on by political leaders not only as



Kenya's President Moi

viable parliamentary candidates and ministerial potential but also as people who could mobilise votes in the constituencies.

A caucus of African women's leaders met in the northern Tanzanian town of Arusha in October to plan a common strategy for next year's United Nations conference which will end the world women's decade in Nairobi.

Kenyan Victoria Okumu, who was at Arusha, believes the decade was a disappointment for the African women. "The situation actually worsened for her. The drought and economic recession are being felt most in the rural areas where most women live and work," she said.

"As for a more equal role in society, I suppose it will take decades and decades of us shouting before our men will hear us."

Schistosomiasis: People first

AN EXPERT Committee of the World Health Organisation (WHO) recently endorsed a new strategy, focused on people and their behaviour, to check the alarming spread of schistosomiasis, a "disease of development".

Meeting in Geneva, the WHO Expert Committee on the Control of Schistosomiasis warned that schistosomiasis — a water-borne disease caused by a parasitic flatworm or blood fluke called a schistosome — is spreading and intensifying due to the new water projects needed to meet growing food demands in developing countries.

It has become the second most important tropical disease in terms of its socio-economic impact and of the toll it takes on health, ranking immediately behind malaria.

Many new irrigation projects and water resource development schemes are a health risk. Unless properly planned from the outset, they multiply the possibilities of human contact with contaminated water. They also provide good breeding-places for the water-snail, the intermediate host of the disease.

One person in twenty infected

According to WHO, schistosomiasis now affects one in 20 of the world's population, or 200 million people in 74 developing countries. About 500-600 million other people are made vulnerable to the disease by poverty, poor housing and lack of sanitary facilities.

The new WHO strategy will revolutionise the control of schistosomiasis in the developing world. Made possible by safe, effective modern drugs and low-cost diagnostic techniques easily used in rural areas, the "people-oriented" approach has produced dramatic results in national programmes, notably in Brazil, Egypt and Sudan.

The main objective is to reduce the disease caused by the heavier infections (rather than halting transmission entirely), and thereafter to maintain infection at a low level where it is not a public health problem.

The strategy backed by the WHO Expert Committee is based on:

- * health education;
- * widespread diagnosis and treatment;
- * access to safe water and latrines;
- * environmental management and modification;
- * snail control; and
- * intersectoral cooperation in agricultural and water resource development schemes.

The Committee also made proposals for integrating schistosomiasis control into primary health care programmes, but stressed that this can only be successful where schistosomiasis is given national priority.

A way of life

Largely unknown in northern, temperate areas, schistosomiasis is virtually a way of life for the millions who live in a tropical climate. The key to the new strategy is a focus on health behaviour. People — not snails — cause schistosomiasis. They catch the disease through daily contact with contaminated water. The same water is used for agricultural, domestic and recreational purposes — and as a disposal area for human waste. Health education seeks to reduce water contact and to prevent water contamination.

Children, the major target group for health education, usually have the heaviest infections — in a hot climate, swimming is naturally their favourite pastime. In some areas, 80-100 per cent of school-age children have the disease. Women and girls catch schistosomiasis while collecting water, bathing infants, or washing clothes or dishes at the water's edge. Men are more likely to get infected when fishing or farming.

The symptoms of schistosomiasis include rash, coughing and chest pains, cramps, diarrhoea, fever, blood in the urine, and an enlargement of the spleen and liver. With reinfections over a period of years, it can become a very debilitating and sometimes fatal disease. A specific form of bladder cancer occurring in endemic areas is also linked with long-term schistosomiasis infection.

Detection and treatment

Recent breakthroughs in understanding of the disease, and in detection and treatment, have made it feasible as never before to control schistosomiasis in the remote rural areas where it is most prevalent. One obvious sign that should alert schoolteachers or primary health care workers is blood in the urine. Using microscopes and slides, health workers with a minimum of training can count the number of parasite eggs in stool and urine samples, and so determine the severity of the infection.

Today there are three safe and highly effective drugs for schistosomiasis. Praziquantel, the result of a unique form of collaboration between WHO and the manufacturer, is effective against all forms of schistosomiasis. Oxamniquine is used for the intestinal



form in Africa and South America. Mebendazole, originally developed as an insecticide, is a safe drug used for urinary schistosomiasis. All three can be taken by mouth, often in a single dose, which simplifies treatment.

The effects are dramatic after one treatment with these modern drugs. They reduce the infection immediately; people feel better within a few days. Their general health improves, particularly in the case of children. Surveys of schoolchildren in the Egyptian Delta showed a spectacular drop in infection after treatment, from 90 to 13 per cent.

A healthier environment

For several decades schistosomiasis control focused heavily on mass campaigns to eliminate snails through chemical spraying. Yet although snails are part of the disease cycle, spraying has several disadvantages, including its high cost. However, snail control by chemical or environmental methods still has its place in control programmes, although more permanent results are expected from health education in future.

Agricultural and other water resource development schemes are essential to the economies of the endemic countries. Effective schistosomiasis control calls for national intersectoral bodies to coordinate all development activities which may promote or influence the spread of the disease. The WHO Expert Committee commended effective national examples of such collaboration in Ethiopia, Kenya and the Philippines.

Schistosomiasis has plagued humanity since ancient times — visible traces of it in China date back 2,000 years, and in Egypt more than 3,000 years. Theodor Bilharz identified the parasitic worm in Egypt in 1851, giving his name to the older scientific name for the disease, bilharziasis. With the new possibilities open today, WHO believes that prospects for success in schistosomiasis control are now better than they have ever been before.

—WHO Press release

Foreign Relations Committee: More partisanship

(Continued from page 4)

The White House often asked the majority leader, Howard H. Baker of Tennessee, to play the principal role, and he did. Time and again, at White House urging, Mr. Baker took the lead away from the committee — on issues such as Central America, Lebanon and the Sale of Awacs aircraft to Saudi Arabia.

As several Senate and administration officials noted, the deal between the Congress and the White House on the Marines in Lebanon early this year was worked out in Mr. Baker's office. It allowed the administration to keep Marines in Lebanon for 18 months rather than the 90 days provided for in the War Powers Act.

Administration officials and Senate staff members also noted that in times of crisis over Lebanon or the Russian shooting down of the Korean airliner or the invasion of Grenada, Mr. Baker pulled rank and took the initiative away from Mr. Percy by having

the administration brief the full Senate and not just the Foreign Relations Committee. This, too, was a break from common practice.

On more routine matters such as the need for annual foreign aid funds, Administration officials for the most part acknowledged that they would rather have no bill authorising foreign aid than accept the aid bills coming out of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee or the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

The administration officials found the appropriations committees in each chamber to be more sympathetic, and the officials satisfied themselves with continuing resolutions approving funding levels. A Foreign Aid Bill approved in 1981 was the only one passed by Congress in the last six years.

Also, over the years, particular individuals have been more important than the committee on certain matters. Before he died, Sen. Henry M. Jackson, Democrat of

Washington, was widely regarded as the most influential senator on arms control and Soviet-American questions. Mr. Helms, a member of the committee, is seen as having disproportionate influence on executive branch appointments and Central American questions.

With the spillover of so many foreign affairs questions such as arms sales, overseas bases and arms control into the wider area of national security, the Senate Armed Services Committee has carved out some of what was formerly exclusive Foreign Relations Committee turf.

Over the same period, the House began to emerge as a greater force on many issues, including foreign affairs.

In part, this was because party leadership in the House remained powerful and able to deliver votes at a time of growing fragmentation of power in the Senate. It was also because certain House members such as Lee H. Hamilton, Democrat of Indiana, and Stephen J.

Solarz, Democrat of Brooklyn, who have been widely viewed as bright and aggressive, gained seniority and began to attract attention usually reserved for senior members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

"The Senate Committee was a better forum for us than the House Foreign Relations Committee, but we couldn't avoid the House," said the former senior administration official.

When the White House was bargaining with Mr. Baker over the invoking of the War Powers Act regarding Lebanon, the other major party to the discussions was the Speaker of the House, Thomas P. O'Neill Jr., and House Foreign Affairs Committee members, not their counterparts on the Senate Committee.

As Mr. Fulbright said, "Partisan passions are strong" and it is "dangerous to trifle with the conventional wisdom" about matters such as Soviet-American affairs and the Middle East — The New York Times.

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S. Arabia, Kuwait, China and Iran qualify for Asian final

SINGAPORE (R) — China qualified for the semi-finals when they trounced the United Arab Emirates 5-0 in a Group 'B' match of the Asian Cup soccer finals here Tuesday night.

Displaying greater speed and aerial superiority, the Chinese stunned the 15,000 crowd to take a 3-0 halftime lead with goals by Yang Chao Hui (12th minute), Jia Xiu Quan (21st) and Zuo Shu Sheng (34th).

China increased their lead in the 52nd minute when striker Zhao Da Yu pounced on a loose ball in the penalty area to nutwit goalkeeper Hasan Ali Mohammad before tapping the ball into an unguarded goal.

The Chinese wrapped up their win in the 67th minute when Hasan failed to hold a powerful shot from the right by striker Gu Guang Ming and was forced to watch the ball trickle into the net.

China finished top of their Group ahead of Iran on goal difference.

Striker Mithasan Al-Bosari ended Kuwait's unbeaten record

in the tournament when he scored two minutes from time to earn Saudi Arabia a 1-0 win in their crucial Group 'A' clash.

Al-Bosari collected a long lob by midfielder Saleh Al-Dosari to drive a 15-metre rising shot into the net.

Kuwait had a penalty appeal turned down by Japanese referees

Toshikazu Sano in the 80th minute when striker Faisal Al-Dakhil appeared to be pushed in the penalty area.

Infuriated Kuwaiti players approached Sano and both linesmen after the match but moved away.

The result made Saudi Arabia winners of Group 'A'. They meet three-time champions Iran.

Group B runners-up, in Thursday's semifinal, Group A runners-up Kuwait will meet China, winners of Group B, in Friday's second semifinal. The final will be played on Saturday.

Group A		Final standings									
		P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts			
Saudi Arabia	4	2	2	0	0	7	2	6			
Kuwait	4	2	1	1	4	2	5				
Qatar	4	1	2	1	3	3	4				
Syria	4	1	1	2	3	5	3				
South Korea	4	0	2	2	1	3	2				
Group B											
China	4	3	0	1	10	2	6				
Iran	4	2	2	0	6	1	6				
United Arab Emirates	4	2	0	2	3	8	4				
Singapore	4	1	1	2	3	4	3				
India	4	0	1	3	0	7	1				

Samaranch answers Castro

LAUSANNE, Switzerland (AP) — Answering a call by Cuban leader Fidel Castro to move the 1988 Summer Olympics from Seoul, South Korea, International Olympic Committee President Juan Antonio Samaranch has reiterated his offer to have the IOC mediate the dispute.

In the letter dated Dec. 4 but made public on Monday, Samaranch thanked Castro for his advice on the matter and repeated his earlier proposal.

"I can assure you that the IOC is willing to preside over a meeting

between the two different parts of Korea, provided that both sides agree voluntarily to attend and on condition that political matters should at no time be discussed," Samaranch said.

In a telegram to Samaranch earlier this month, Castro said the IOC should "have learned a lesson" from the boycott of the Los Angeles Olympics by the Soviets, Cubans and other East-bloc countries. He asked the IOC to reconsider holding the games in Seoul, saying the "internal situation" in South Korea made the city an unwise choice.

Zaman survives 1st round in Muscat Grand Prix

MUSCAT (R) — Qamar Zaman of Pakistan narrowly avoided defeat by outsider Rod George of Australia in the first round of the \$24,000 Al Falaj Squash Grand Prix Tuesday.

George, 19th in the world rankings, held his own against world championship finalist Zaman for 65 minutes and led 5-1 in the deciding game before losing 9-3, 4-9, 9-7, 7-9, 9-7.

Ross Norman of New Zealand,

ninth in the world, continued his recent run of successes with a crushing straight games defeat of Australian Steve Bowditch, ranked 17th.

In the first match of the tournament, a new event on the international circuit, 11th-seeded Ricky Hill of Australia had seventh-seeded compatriot Greg Pollard under pressure at the start but Pollard recovered to win 6-9, 9-5, 9-5, 9-3.

West Indies clinches test series against Australia

ADELAIDE (R) — The West Indies clinched the series against Australia here Tuesday with a seemingly effortless 191-run victory in the third test at Adelaide Oval which again demonstrated the versatility and depth of the team.

The cream of Caribbean cricket scored their 11th successive test victory, and their sixth in a row against Australia, after the home team were skittled out for 173 in their second innings.

The tourists set Australia 364 to win after Larry Gomes had scored the first century of the match, 120 not out, in the West Indies second innings and Viv Richards had weighed in with 42, his first substantial knock of the series.

The West Indies' batting power — they bat down to number nine — has laid the foundation for the record-breaking victory run, but a change in bowling tactics proved decisive Tuesday.

Off-spinner Roger Harper was brought in to dilute the purely pace attack following an injury to Michael Holding, and he justified his selection by taking four for 43.

However, Malcolm Marshall, the scourge of Australia's first innings, proved the biggest handful for the home side's batting elite, dismissing John Dyson, Allan Border and Kim Hughes on the way to a second innings' five for 38.

Border, captaining Australia for the first time, said after the game he was disappointed his side were not able to hang on for a draw to keep the series alive.

"To take them into the fifth day is an achievement in itself," he said. "But we can't seem to match them at this stage. We seem to be playing the game under pressure all the time... I'd like to reverse the roles for once."

Border said he never thought Australia could win the game but he was hopeful of escaping with a draw.

"It was a matter of battling it out, battling for three sessions and saving the game," he said.

West Indies captain Clive Lloyd was very happy with his side's performance and thought the victory was clinched after his side had scored more than 350 in its first innings.

"That was always a good score on that wicket, considering how it was going to play on the fifth day," said Lloyd, who is touring for the last time before retiring.

Lloyd said he thought the result could have been different had Australia held some important catches, a failing also apparent during the games in Brisbane and Perth.

"Although we've been winning, the games haven't been cut and dried," Lloyd said generously. The West Indies won the first

test by an innings and 112 runs and the second by eight wickets.

Border also believed dropped catches were responsible for the defeats but said his side's batsmen needed to improve.

"It's a matter of scoring more runs, it's as simple as that," he said. "We must hold on to our catches. We're putting the batting under pressure by not taking our catches."

"They've shown that if you give them an inch they'll make you pay for any mistake."

But Lloyd echoed the thoughts — and hopes — of cricket fans all over the world. "We're playing a very high standard of cricket, but how long that will go on for I don't know."

Geoff Lawson and Keppeler Wessels were the only Australians who matched the West Indies in spirit and technique. Wessels followed his first innings 98 with a spirited 70 before he was caught behind by Jeff Dujon off Harper.

African Cup final 2nd leg set for Dec. 30

CAIRO (R) — National of Egypt and Canon Yaounde of Cameroon will play the second leg of the African Cup Winners' Soccer Cup final in Yaounde on December 30, an African Football Confederation (AFC) official said Tuesday.

National won the first leg 1-0 in Cairo on November 30. The spokesman told Reuters commitments by both teams made an earlier date impossible.

The AFC said last month that December 23 or 30 had been suggested to Canon, which reached the final when Al Ahli of Libya was disqualified for not showing up in Cairo on November 16 for the first leg clash against National.

Girardelli claims world slalom title

SESTRIERE, Italy (R) — Marc Girardelli of Luxembourg, seven times a runner-up but never before a giant slalom winner, ended his World Cup jinx with victory here Tuesday.

The Austrian-born skier clocked two minutes 25.56 seconds to end the barren run and record his second triumph of the season following his slalom success on the same slopes nine days ago.

His win keeps him on course for an absorbing duel with reigning World Cup champion and current overall leader Pirmin Zurbriggen of Switzerland.

The young West German Markus Wasmeier was almost a sec-

ond behind Girardelli in second place, his best ever result, and Olympic champion Max Julen was third, his finest performance since striking gold in Sarajevo.

Girardelli, who has seven slalom wins to his credit, was delighted with his first giant slalom victory.

"It's a great achievement for me," he said. "Now I've won it once I know I can always win it again. I was really motivated today after not finishing the last two races."

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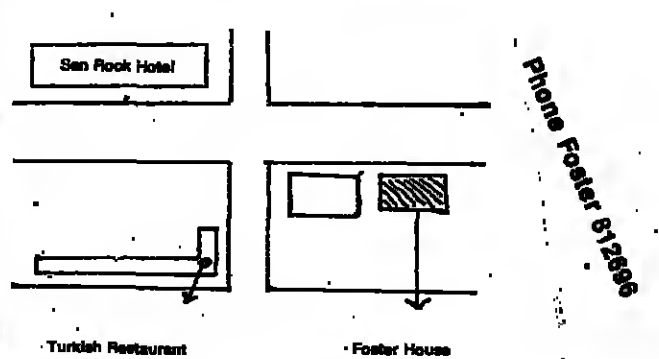
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EC ministers disagree on monetary plans

BRUSSELS (R) — European Community (EC) finance ministers failed Monday to agree on how to improve economic and monetary cooperation within the 10-nation group and strengthen its European Monetary System (EMS), diplomats said.

They said discussions on a joint action programme, proposed by the community's executive commission, would resume at a finance ministers' meeting next month.

The EMS, launched in 1979, is a system which aims to minimise fluctuations in exchange rates between member countries' currencies. The aim is to provide stable conditions for economic cooperation.

Community officials said the commission had hoped to gain support for its action programme at Monday's meeting. Diplomats said most member countries have objected to parts of the plan, both in public and in experts' meetings.

Karl-Otto Poehl, president of the West German Bundesbank, said last week that it was unrealistic to push for further institutional developments of the EMS and called for improvements

in the existing system instead. Diplomats said another problem was a Greek reservation about the overall aims of the EMS, which Athens believes should serve primarily to iron out differences in living standards and provide cash to Greece to achieve this.

In its proposals last month, the commission advocated bolstering the use of the ECU (European Currency Unit) in settlements between central banks by raising artificially low interest rates on ECU deposits and allowing public financial institutions outside the Community to use the ECU.

It called for more coordination of economic policies in the Community and urged member countries to make a firm political commitment to the implications and content of its annual economic report when the governments adopt it.

European Commissioner Frans Andriessen, in charge of monetary affairs, Monday urged a quick dismantling of controls on capital movements which he said hampered Europe's monetary integration, diplomats said.

Mr. Andriessen told the ministers that the commission would be more restrictive when member countries like Italy and France ask it to allow their existing controls on foreign exchange and capital movements to continue, they said.

Committee recommends rejection of EC annual budget

Meanwhile, the European Parliament's budget committee Monday night recommended that the assembly reject the EC draft budget for 1985, which could plunge the group into new political trouble.

Parliament is expected to vote on the budget on Thursday, and with only two Danish members dissenting, the 37-member committee suggested that it be thrown out.

Parliamentary leaders believe that the budget, amounting to 26 billion ECUs or \$19 billion, is enough for only 10 months' spending.

The committee said parliament should ask for a new draft to be submitted.

This would have to be done by the Community's new commission headed by former French finance

minister Mr. Jacques Delors which takes office next month. Parliament has few powers outside the budget and regularly has battles with the council of ministers in December aimed at increasing its influence in this important area.

Only once before, in 1979, has parliament gone so far as to reject the annual budget.

This forces the Community to use an emergency financial system until the dispute between the parliament and national governments is resolved.

Under the emergency system, member states would make monthly contributions equal to about 1/12th of this year's budget.

A decision to reject the budget on Thursday would need the support of 218 members, a bare majority of the membership, plus two-thirds of those who actually vote.

Price freeze fuels Israeli subsidies

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Israel is printing money at the rate of about \$130 million a week to help finance huge subsidies on basic goods, causing central bank economists to urge an early end to an official price freeze, a Bank of Israel official said Monday.

The subsidies have grown during the five-week-old freeze, imposed to lower Israel's 800 per cent annual inflation by pegging shop prices of bread, fuel and water and other items.

The freeze has not halted the devaluation of the shekel against the dollar, and subsidised items like fuel and grain are imported and have to be paid for in dollars.

Labour costs also have continued to rise as wages are linked to inflation.

The official, who asked not to be named, told Reuters that central bank economists were now urging the government to end the price freeze at the beginning of January, three weeks earlier than scheduled.

He said the government pumped 80 billion shekels (\$133 million) in subsidies into the economy in the first week of this month.

"We can't go on printing the equivalent of \$20 million a day. A huge inflationary explosion is building up and the government has to release some of the pressure," he said.

Finance ministry officials said

the state now subsidised the price of water by over 380 per cent, basic foodstuffs by up to 150 per cent and fuel imports by 20 per cent.

Last month, when the government printed 130 billion shekels, then equal to about \$200 million, Finance Minister Yitzhak Mordechai said he was appalled by the figure and called for a law to limit the amount of money the government could print.

The Bank of Israel is now drawing up the proposed legislation. Prices were frozen for three months on Nov. 4 in an agreement under which workers gave up part of the monthly salary increases that compensated them for wage erosion.

Mr. Mordechai said the freeze had given the government some breathing space to cut its budget, which economists say is a vital condition of any anti-inflation plan.

Histadrut rejects cooperation

The central bank official said Mr. Mordechai had begged the Histadrut labour federation to allow him to adjust the prices of subsidised items but had been turned down.

"There is also the fear that the public, realising that prices are artificially low, will embark on a huge spending spree in the final weeks of the freeze, something everybody is anxious to avoid," the official said.

One plan under consideration is to link wages and prices to the dollar and control inflation through the rate of devaluation of the shekel.

Yamani warns London, Oslo on oil price cuts

RIYADH (R) — Saudi Arabian Oil Minister Ahmad Zaki Yamani warned Britain and Norway Tuesday they would risk starting a price war if they shaved prices quoted for their North Sea crude oil.

In other comments on the turmoil in oil markets, Sheikh Yamani and visiting Mexican Oil Minister Francisco Labastida said they were cooperating to defend the present reference price of \$29 a barrel for Saudi Arabian light crude.

Mexico, like Britain and Norway, is not a member of the 13-nation Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), which sets the reference price and is holding a ministerial session in Geneva on Dec. 19.

Sheikh Yamani also said "no, there are no differences," when asked by reporters to comment on market reports that he and another key OPEC minister, Dr. Mana Said Al Otaiba of the United Arab Emirates, differed on key aspects of OPEC's pricing structure.

"Oil sources in Riyadh said Sheikh Yamani was vexed by news that Britain and Norway were contemplating a new formula for pricing their oil, which competes with OPEC production."

Britain is considering fixing prices according to the "spot" market.

In the prevailing world oversupply, sellers have been unloading oil at bargain prices in non-OPEC spot sales, after buyers have spurned it at broadly OPEC-aligned contract prices.

Sheikh Yamani told reporters Monday night he was not worried about the forthcoming OPEC talks in Geneva, but that the North Sea was "another matter."

After seeing King Fahd Monday night, he followed it up with a warning in a statement issued to

the official Saudi Press Agency which said: "Any adjustment of prices by North Sea producers will open the door for a price war."

"It will also cost other oil producers tremendous loss," it added Monday night and again Tuesday however, Sheikh Yamani stressed he saw no immediate danger, explaining that he thinks the market is about to firm up and send spot prices higher.

He cites stocks and supply. Sheikh Yamani says consuming nations have been burdening the market with oil drawn from their stockpiles and dare not take much more oil. Also, OPEC will continue to operate curbs on output.

But, clearly, he is worried about the longer term if Britain and Norway turn price mavericks in a possibly softer market when the northern winter ends.

The Saudis, if they played the same game of setting prices in line with a free market for every drop they could pump, could, theoretically, earn as much as they do now at a price closer to \$10 a barrel.

Sheikh Yamani and Mr. Labastida, who met King Fahd Tuesday, held extensive talks.

Emerging from lunch, they were asked if they were cooperating to defend \$29. "Yes we are," Sheikh Yamani said. Mr. Labastida added: "Of course."

In the glut, demand has proven stronger for heavier, sourer crude oils, yielding more heating oil than the once most-prized light grades that, under OPEC rules, carry a fixed premium, or "differential", over the \$29 reference price.

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Nigeria, among OPEC members, have had the same trouble getting buyers for their light crude at the premium prices as have Britain and Norway.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Arab agricultural output falls in 1983

BAHRAIN (R) — Agricultural production in the Arab World fell to 23.9 million tonnes in 1983 from 24.4 million the previous year, an Arab economic report said Tuesday. The report, prepared by the Arab Economic and Social Development Fund and carried by the Bahrain-based Gulf News Agency, said food imports cost \$24 billion last year, while exports were at \$3.8 billion.

Baghdad clamps down on black market

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq's Revolutionary Command Council (RCC) Tuesday issued a decree allowing courts to impose 15-year jail sentences and confiscate the property of people who use the black market. The decree gives courts a free hand to impose the sentences on people who refuse to sell goods at prices limited by the government. It also includes people who "sell, buy or deal with commodities prohibited by the public sector and goods which are allowed for trade by licenced people only." The government has allocated billions of dollars to import necessary goods and subsidise bread, rice and sugar prices.

U.S. to back Westinghouse in Egypt

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. Export-Import Bank has approved financing to support a bid by Westinghouse Company to build part of a nuclear power plant in Egypt, a bank spokesman said Monday. Westinghouse is competing against government-supported bids from France and Italy, he said.

Siemens wins \$30m Saudi contract

MUNICH (R) — West German electrical firm Siemens said Tuesday that it and its 75 per cent-owned subsidiary Transformatoren Union had won an order worth around 150 million marks (\$30 million) for a high-voltage switch plant for the Saudi Arabian city of Mecca. The order also covers expansion of the electricity network in Mecca and Jeddah, Siemens said in a statement. Transformatoren Union is 25 per cent owned by another West German electrical concern, AEG-Telefunken.

Austrian-Arab trade volume rises

VIENNA (OPECNA) — Austria's imports from Arab countries more than doubled in the last decade while its exports to Arab markets increased fivefold, Dr. Erich Schmidt, state secretary at the Austrian ministry of trade, pointed out in a trade review here Sunday. He said Austria's trade with the Arab World was recording a slight surplus following a high trade deficit of \$475 million in 1980.

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Equities closed below the record high levels touched during the session following the 2.75 per cent rise in U.K. November money supply. This compared with market estimates which ranged between one and 1 1/2 per cent, dealers said.

Government bonds reversed initial 3/4 point gains on the higher than expected money supply data, having opened firmer on the higher trend on the U.S. bond markets.

The FTSE 100 index at 1530 GMT was up 2.1 at 1200.0 having attained an all time high of 1202.9 earlier in the session. ICI was 4p higher at 674 after 676 and Beecham returned to 383 after 386. Gold shares and North Americans were mixed.

British Telecom was again heavily traded ending 1p higher at 96 1/2. B.T. had opened at 95 after some light selling but a stock shortage still helped underpin the price, dealers said.

Banks remained firm with gains ranging to 5p but insurances followed the general market trend with Prudential 2p higher at 503 after 508. I.C. Gas rose 8p to 318 after reporting six month results but other oils remained dull.

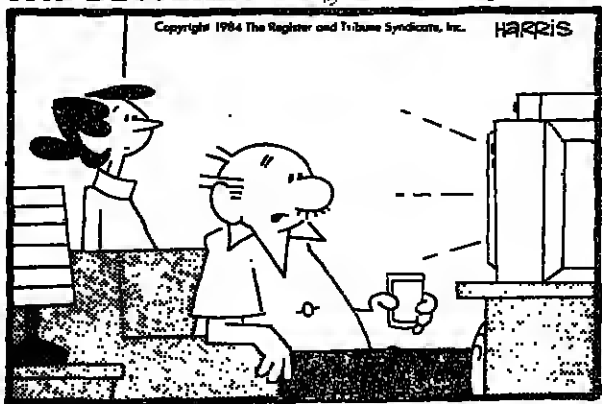
Stores continued their higher trend reflecting Monday's U.K. record retail sales with Gus "A" at 669 and W.M. Smith at 172 both 8p firmer. Comfort Hotels gained 13p at 86 following a bid from Ladbroke group. Ladbroke eased 7p to 244.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

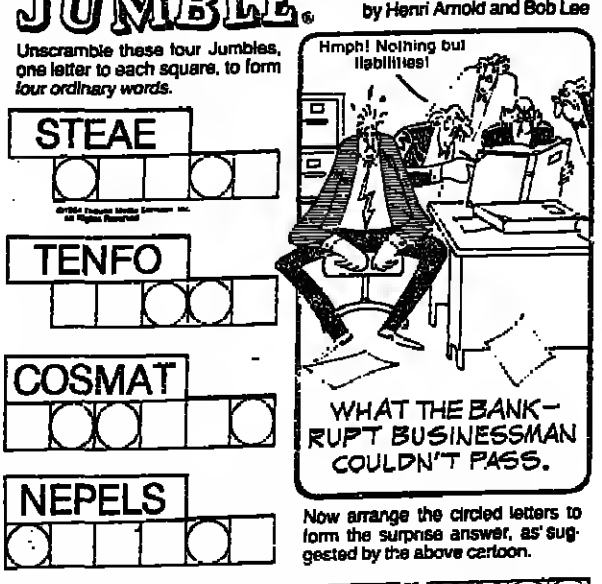
One sterling	1.2018/28	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3190/93	Canadian dollars
	3.0853/70	West German marks
	3.4825/40	Dutch guilders
	2.5475/90	Swiss francs
	62.11/14	Belgian francs
	9.4550/4600	French francs
	1902.5/3.5	Italian lire
	246.90/247.05	Japanese yen
	8.7975/8075	Swedish crowns
	8.9150/9250	Norwegian crowns
	11.0600/0700	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	326.50/327.00	U.S. dollars

THE BETTER HALF



"The educational channel is trying to expand its audience. They're showing mud wrestling historians."

JUMBLE



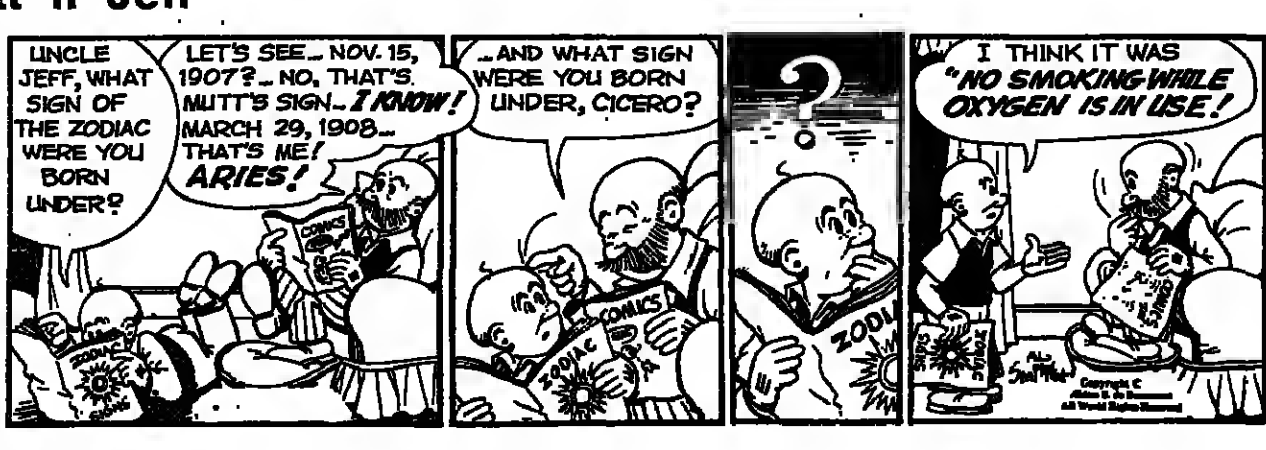
Answer: THE " " " " (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: KINKY WALTZ BURIAL FGADE Answer: What a quick doctor usually tries to do — DUCK THE LAW

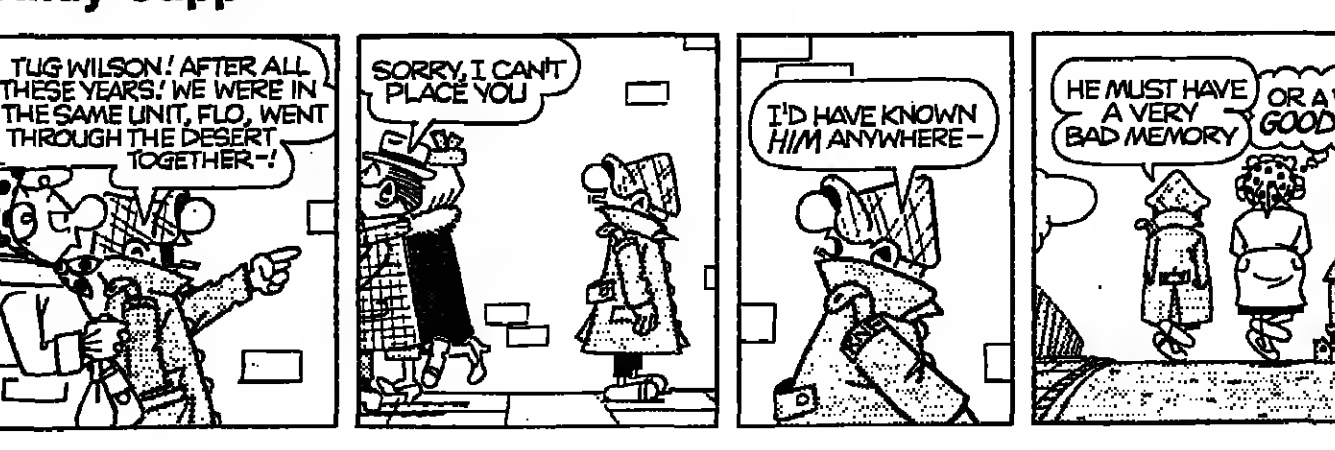
Peanuts



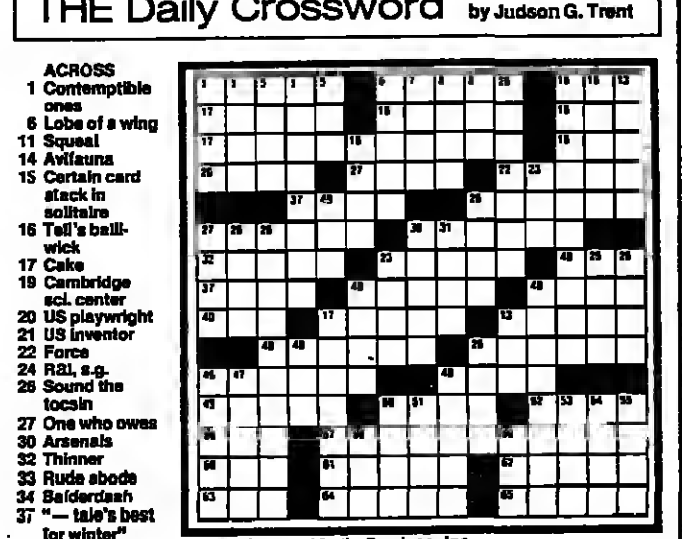
Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



THE Daily Crossword



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Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
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China reportedly bolsters troops opposite Vietnam

BANGKOK, Thailand (Agencies) — China has recently bolstered its army divisions opposite Vietnam, making its border force "equivalent" in strength to that used in the major Chinese attack in early 1979, the Vietnam News Agency (VNA) reported Tuesday.

The official agency also claimed that Vietnamese forces killed more than 100 Chinese troops and wounded 40 others on Nov. 28 in expelling a Chinese force that had occupied hills in Ha Tuyn province. Chinese artillery and other military hardware and positions sustained heavy damage in the counterattack, VNA said in a report monitored in Bangkok.

China, which began massing "many army corps and divisions" opposite Vietnam in March, has recently dispatched another eight divisions there, VNA said.

"The Chinese force now stationed in the Canton and Kunming military regions is equivalent to the force China used in its February 1979 invasion of Vietnam," the agency charged.

China's six-week attack in 1979 was aimed at "punishing" Hanoi for invading Kampuchea and ousting the pro-Chinese Khmer

China News Service said Tuesday China is developing a new main battle tank which can survive in nuclear, chemical and germ war. It described the amphibious tank as one of a new generation of armoured vehicles which China started designing and developing in the 1970s.

Foreign military attaches in Peking said they were not aware of such a tank.

"I have never heard of this, but one must always assume that they are in the process of developing new vehicles," one said.

The news service did not give any other details of the tank which it contrasted with Soviet designs bought from Moscow in the early 1950s and later domestically-produced variants.

The attaches said the new tank's reported ability to survive in chemical warfare appeared to reflect China's fear of the Soviet Union's capacity in this area.

To continue in action in a nuclear, chemical or germ war the tank would need sophisticated means to enable the crew to batten down.

Indian court hears compensation suit for gas disaster victims

NEW DELHI (R) — India's supreme court Tuesday heard the first local compensation suit for victims of the Bhopal gas leak while a U.S. lawyer in the disaster city said police had barred him from signing agreements with survivors.

A three-judge bench headed by Chief Justice Y.V. Chandrachud asked the Madhya Pradesh state government to answer charges that the disaster occurred because of its negligence, the Press Trust of India (PTI) reported.

The news agency said the court listed the case for a full hearing on Jan. 15 and asked state authorities to provide information about steps they had taken to provide victims with relief and rehabilitation.

The suit, filed by local lawyer M.A. Krishnamoorthy, seeks compensation of 500,000 rupees (\$42,000) for each victim's family.

About 2,500 people were killed and about 125,000 have received medical treatment since Dec. 3 when poisonous gas leaked from a pesticides factory owned by the

Indian subsidiary of the U.S. Union Carbide Company.

In Bhopal, Washington attorney John Coale said police had prevented him meeting victims. He said Monday he had agreements to represent nearly 6,000 people.

PTI quoted Mr. Coale as saying in a statement: "The police said we could not talk to the people. They also threatened to arrest and detain us. I understand India is a democracy where we expect full freedom of speech and expression ... but this is a rare exception."

The gas leakage has sparked off a compensation battle which could turn out to be the world's costliest. At least three U.S. law teams are holding talks in Bhopal.

Mr. Coale, who said Monday individual claims could reach \$1 billion, leads one team and Los Angeles lawyer Fred Sayre another.

The third, led by San Francisco attorney Melvin Belli, has already filed a \$15-billion suit against Union Carbide.

Death toll climbs to 76 in Taiwan mine blast

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP) — Twenty-five more bodies were recovered Tuesday from a coal mine explosion near Taipei, raising the death toll to 76 in what has become Taiwan's second worst mine tragedy, rescuers reported.

Rescuers said the latest bodies were found in a tunnel two kilometres from the entrance of the Hsian-shan Yikang Mine, where 17 other miners were still trapped and believed dead following last Wednesday's explosion.

Only two miners have been rescued alive, one several hours after the explosion and the other, Chou Chung-Lu, on Sunday, when he was found by reporters he survived by eating flesh from a dead miner.

Meanwhile, Chen Tien-Tzu, chairman of the mine, confirmed to the Associated Press that the mine had received two anonymous telephone calls recently, threatening possible accidents.

He said he had no idea who made the threats or why but he said he could not rule out sabotage as the cause of the explosion. Officials initially linked the explosion to leaking gas.

The last threat, from a male caller, was received by a mine guard two days before the explosion, Mr. Chen said. He said the caller asked for the manager but was informed that he was out.



PILE-UP IN LONDON: Rescue workers and smouldering wreckage on an express highway near Godstone, south of London, Tuesday after a fiery multiple-vehicle crash involving 22 vehicles in early-morning fog. Nine people were killed and 22 injured in the crash when nine trucks and 13 cars collided (AP wirephoto)

U.S. envoy begins visit to India

COLOMBO (R) — United States special envoy Vernon Walters left for New Delhi after talks with Sri Lankan leaders on the escalation of guerrilla violence on the north of the island.

National Security Minister Lalith Athulthumudali told Reuters that Gen. Walters would discuss with Indian leaders the latest military and political situation in Sri Lanka.

He declined to say whether Gen. Walters had been asked to seek Indian cooperation in cracking down on Tamil separatists.

India has repeatedly denied Sri Lankan charges that the guerrillas have been trained in camps in the southern India state of Tamil Nadu.

While in Colombo, Gen. Walters handed President Junius Jayewardene a message from President Reagan.

Officials from both countries declined to comment on the contents of the message. They were also silent on a report in the state-run Daily News that Colombo had presented Washington with a shopping list for military supplies.

Washington last week deplored the upsurge of guerrilla fighting but Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy ruled out the

possibility of the United States supplying arms to Sri Lanka on a visit here two months ago.

Gen. Walters arrived here as security forces clamped a 61-hour curfew, the longest for a decade, on northern Sri Lanka to flush out guerrillas fighting for a separate state for the 2.6 million minority Tamil population.

More than 370 people have died since the guerrillas stepped up attacks last month.

Mr. Athulthumudali linked the upsurge in guerrilla violence to India's general election on Dec. 24 and to state elections the same day in Tamil Nadu.

Opposition politicians in Tamil Nadu have taken a tough line in support of the separatists who share close cultural and linguistic ties with the state's 50 million Tamils.

Mr. Athulthumudali said the rebels were "fighting on the instructions of some people who think that by creating incidents in Sri Lanka and provoking an anti-Tamil backlash they could win in Tamil Nadu."

Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi has not commented publicly on the latest situation in Sri Lanka.

Sri Lanka officials have indicated they hoped Mr. Gandhi would take a tougher stand against the guerrillas than his mother Indira Gandhi.

In general, after an election, people at the helm of affairs are in a better position to appreciate the situation without being constrained by the necessities of winning an election," Mr. Athulthumudali said.

He called on India to crack down on guerrilla bases in Tamil Nadu but said he doubted whether New Delhi would respond to calls to intervene.

"I do not see how the unity of India is going to be helped by a separate Tamil state in Sri Lanka. In fact I think it would be seriously prejudiced," he said.

Mr. Athulthumudali declined to say whether Sri Lanka had asked the West for arms or military assistance to counter the guerrillas.

He agreed that any Western power would have to weigh helping Sri Lanka against the possibility of upsetting India which enjoys good relations with the Soviet Union.

Sri Lanka, a member of the Non-Aligned Movement like India, has moved closer to Washington since Mr. Jayewardene came to power in 1977.

The House Food Company started in 1913 as a store selling medicines and industrial goods. It moved into selling curry and became a general food manufacturer.

New victim of poison gang vows to fight on

TOKYO (R) — The latest victim of Japan's poisoned food extortion gang vowed Tuesday to resist demands for ransom even at the cost of heavy business losses.

"We will take the path of hardship rather than the simple way of making a secret deal with the extortionists," a spokesman for the House Food Industrial Company told reporters.

The company disclosed Monday that it had become the fourth in Japan to be a target of the gang which tries to extort a ransom by planting cyanide-laced food on store shelves and watching the firm's sales go down.

That is what started to happen to House Food as soon as word went round that some of its frozen stew had been found dosed with cyanide in a store.

The company's share price fell 41 yen (16 cents) to 660 yen (\$2.70) on the news Tuesday. The extortion bid, disclosed only Monday, was made on Nov. 7 with a by-now familiar letter signed "the man with 21 faces."

This is the title, derived from a pre-World War II crime thriller, used by the gang on its letters demanding a ransom.

As in the case of previous companies, all of which were confectionary firms, the demand to House Food was for 100 million yen (400,000 dollars).

The company's vice-president, Kunihiko Otsuka, told reporters the firm had pretended to agree to the gang's request and tried to deliver a ransom package closely tailed by police cars.

But none of the crooks turned up to collect. Detectives suspected that a car which drove off from the scene in a hurry at the approach of police may have been used by the gang.

The House Food Company started in 1913 as a store selling medicines and industrial goods. It moved into selling curry and became a general food manufacturer.

8 COLUMN

Father kills 4 sons with cleaver

KHARTOUM, Sudan (AP) — A 34-year-old father killed his four sons, aged between four and nine years, by smashing their heads with a cleaver, the state-owned newspaper Al Ayam reported Tuesday. It identified the man as Khamis Miskine and said he was mentally deranged. Police sources confirmed the killing. The newspaper said the slaying took place on Monday inside Miskine's house in the Khartoum suburb of Al Ushara. It quoted people on the scene as saying Miskine emerged from his house shouting he had killed his sons "on an order from heaven." Police arrested Miskine with a copy of the Holy Koran in his hands. Police sources said they were unable to obtain from Miskine any "useful information."

British upper class are reportedly taller

LONDON (R) — The British upper classes are tall and thin while the lower orders tend to be short and fat, according to a government survey out Monday. Britons tired of being laughed at by foreigners because of their concern with class differences can now turn to "the heights and weights of adults in Great Britain" to justify their prejudices. The report, commissioned by the Health Ministry as an aid to preventive medicine, said among its findings:

"In almost every age group, people from households headed by a manual worker were shorter, on average, than people from non-manual worker households." The survey said the average height of men in the top two social classes was 1.755 metres and that of men in the lowest two social classes 1.723 metres. Upper class women measured an average 1.625 metres compared with 1.596 metres for working class women.

Dancing is back in China

PEKING (R) — Dancing is back in China, and that's official. The China Daily newspaper said Peking's Mayor Chen Xitong attended a dance party for young people at the weekend and gave it his official blessing. The mayor, who is a prominent member of the Communist Party, said dances played a useful social role by allowing young people to meet each other and find marriage partners. During the ultra-leftist Cultural Revolution of 1966-76, dancing to anything but revolutionary Maoist songs was banned and parties were frowned upon.

Dinosaur eggs found in Soviet Union

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet scientists have found eggs laid by dinosaurs 105 million years ago in a mountainous part of Central Asia that may be the biggest-known breeding ground of the prehistoric creatures, TASS News Agency said Tuesday. "Layers of rock of the cretaceous period of the earth's geological history are literally stuffed with shells of dinosaur eggs, up to a thousand fragments per cubic metre," Lev Nesov, head of the expedition said. The find, which includes the first whole dinosaur eggs to be found in the Soviet Union, is in the Fergana Mountains in Soviet Central Asia, north of Afghanistan.

Leading Soviet scientist dies

MOSCOW (R) — One of the Soviet Union's foremost aviation and rocketry experts, Vladimir Chelomei, has died aged 70, the official news agency TASS reported Tuesday. The scientist, whose work was closely connected with the Soviet space programme and aircraft design, died suddenly in Moscow on Dec. 8, TASS said. The cause of death was not given. The official obituary, signed by the Kremlin leadership, praised Chelomei as an outstanding designer of rocket technology and aircraft. He headed a major scientific research, design and development organisation for 29 years.

Nobel laureate in critical condition

MADRID (R) — Nobel prize-winning Spanish poet Vicente Aleixandre was in critical condition following emergency surgery for an intestinal haemorrhage, hospital sources said Tuesday. Aleixandre, 86, who won the 1977 Nobel Prize for Literature, was rushed to hospital here Monday, they said.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

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ANSWERS TO BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
 ♠AK97 ♥83 ♦K76 ♣K1095
 The bidding has proceeded:
 South West North East
 1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
 2 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass

What action do you take?
 A.—There are those who will argue that South has a minimum opening bid and, therefore, should pass. But that doesn't take into account that all his values are prime and that he has useful intermediates. Since aces and kings are undervalued in the point count system, we would go to game unhesitatingly.

Q.2—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
 ♠Q64 ♥K985 ♦10963 ♠A8
 The bidding has proceeded:
 North East South West
 1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
 Pass Double ?

What action do you take?
 A.—You have as much as the law will allow for your simple raise, and your defensive values are excellent. You must advise partner that you have a maximum raise, and the way to do so is to redouble. Unless your opponents have a club fit, they could be in big trouble.

Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
 ♠A987 ♥AKQ8 ♦K102
 The bidding has proceeded:
 South West North East
 1 ♠ 1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ ?

What action do you take?
 A.—Partner does not rate to have much, but your hand is too strong to allow the opponents to buy the hand at the two-level. Since you have support for all the other suits, you should double. As partner has not yet bid, this double is for takeout.

Q.4—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
 ♠K1092 ♥A9863 ♦AQ72

Tutu slams media's S. Africa coverage

OSLO (R) — South African human rights campaigner Bishop Desmond Tutu criticised the Western media Tuesday for giving far more coverage to the death of one Polish priest than those of many blacks in his country.

In his Nobel Peace Prize lecture here, he asked: "Are we being told something that I do not want to believe, that we blacks are expendable and that blood is thicker than water, that when it comes to the crunch, you cannot trust whites, that they will club together against us?"

Speaking in the same university hall where the peace prize ceremony was disrupted by a bomb scare Monday, Tutu raised the case of Father Jerzy Popieluszko, the murdered supporter of Poland's banned independent trade union Solidarity.

"When a priest goes missing

and is subsequently found dead, the media in the West carry his story in very extensive coverage. I am glad that the death of one person can cause so much concern," Tutu said in his prepared address.

"But in the self-same week when this priest is found dead, the South African police kill 24 blacks who had been taking part in protests and 6,000 blacks are sacked for being similarly involved and you are lucky to get that much coverage," he added.

Lech Walesa, winner of the 1983 Nobel Peace Prize, sent a message of congratulations to Tutu, inviting him to visit him at his home in the Baltic Port of Gdansk, an aide said Monday.

In Tuesday's lecture, Tutu said more than 150 people had been killed in recent disturbances in South Africa, but he charged that "there has been little revulsion or

outrage at this wanton destruction of human life in the West." Tutu said South Africa's blacks were "peace-loving to a fault," but that the only response they had got from the white minority government was "the violence of police dogs, tear gas, detention without trial, exile and even death."

He said he was opposed to all forms of violence — "that of a repressive and unjust system and that of those who seek to overthrow that system." But he added that he understood "those who said they had to adopt what is a last resort for them."

"Violence is not being introduced into the South African situation from outside by those who are called terrorists or freedom fighters, depending on whether you are oppressed or an oppressor," he said.

South Africa rejects foreign pressure

CAPE TOWN, South Africa (R) — South Africa responded to President Reagan's claim to be using quiet diplomacy to push for change here by saying the country would not allow others to prescribe for it.

State-run Radio South Africa Tuesday quoted Foreign Minister P. W. Botha as saying the South African government would take decisions on reform and security on the basis of what it considered to be the country's interest.

South Africa would not allow itself to be prescribed to, particularly not through demonstrations and radical actions by foreign pressure groups, Mr. Botha said.

The radio said he was replying to questions about Mr. Reagan's statements that the United States was using quiet diplomacy to convince South Africa it should change its apartheid racial policies.

Meanwhile President Reagan, turning away from his policy of quiet diplomacy towards South Africa, said Monday he felt a moral responsibility to voice

"concern and grief" at the Pretoria government's apartheid policy.

The president also strongly criticised the Soviet Union as he condemned human rights abuses worldwide in a speech at a ceremony marking the 36th anniversary of the adoption of the universal declaration of human rights.

Mr. Reagan, in his most forthright statement about South Africa to date, said he felt "a moral responsibility to speak out ... to emphasise our concern and grief over the human and spiritual costs of apartheid."

Just three days ago South Africa's black Anglican Bishop Desmond Tutu, winner of the 1984 Nobel Peace Prize, urged Mr. Reagan at a White House meeting to adopt a tougher policy towards South Africa.

A senior U.S. official, who briefed reporters on the speech and asked not to be identified, said Mr. Reagan's remarks meant "the volume (of U.S. criticism) is being

turned up with regard to South Africa."

The official said the speech was "turning away from quiet diplomacy" the United States has been using to promote human rights for South Africa's black majority and commented:

"The kind of relationship it (South Africa) wants with the United States cannot be attained if it continues repressive methods."

In talking about the Soviet Union, Mr. Reagan said that country was guilty of brutal assaults to the human conscience by the "suppression of individual liberty ... and the denial of religious expression by Christians, Jews and Muslims."

He condemned a "barbaric war" being conducted by the Soviet Union in Afghanistan.

He welcomed, however, recent liberalising steps taken by the Polish government and said these should be followed by moves for a genuine national reconciliation between the Warsaw government and its people.

Hawke reshuffles cabinet

CANBERRA (R) — Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke Tuesday announced an enlarged cabinet following the Labour government's return to power in elections on Dec. 1.

Labour parliamentarians re-elected all 27 ministers but Mr. Hawke reshuffled 10 portfolios, demoting Gordon Scholes who had been minister of defence, and Gareth Evans, who was attorney-general.

The prime minister, urged by the party's left this week to consult more in decision-making, expanded his inner cabinet from 15 to 17 with the new ministers from the left and right.

Mr. Hawke denied at a news conference that factional bickering prompted the changes for the government's three-year term. Bill Hayden, a former party leader who had sharp differences with Mr. Hawke over the outcome of the polls in which Labour won a reduced majority, remains foreign minister.

Some newspapers had predicted he might be removed because of his remarks.

But Mr. Hawke said Tuesday: "I didn't go into this responsible exercise of trying to create for Australia the most efficient ministry that I could on the basis of punishment and reward. I have

never operated that way."

Mr. Hawke, who pledged in the election campaign to pursue moderate, consensus-style policies, made Deputy Prime Minister Lionel Bowen attorney-general. He had been trade minister.

Mr. Evans, a party intellectual, said by party sources to have been criticised privately by both Labour wings for his handling of sensitive constitutional issues, was moved to the Resources and Energy Ministry.

He replaces Peter Walsh who was appointed to the powerful finance portfolio.

Mr. Scholes, made territories minister outside the cabinet, was replaced by former Aviation Minister Kim Beazley, a long-serving right-wing politician who had been education minister from 1972-75 in a previous Labour administration.

Paul Keating keeps the key treasury post in which he won high regard overseas for loosening the shackles of a heavily regulated finance system and presiding over the country's sharp economic recovery.

The main promotion was for Brian Howe, a left-winger from Victoria, who was given the social security portfolio. He had been minister for defence support.

Britain says pullout from UNESCO not irrevocable

PARIS (R) — Britain has given formal notice that it plans to withdraw from UNESCO at the end of next year but says the decision could be reconsidered if substantial progress is made in reforming the U.N. agency.

In a letter to UNESCO Director-General Amadou Mahtar M'Bow made public here Monday British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe set out a list of changes London wants to see in the agency's management, programmes and budget.

Sir Geoffrey said Britain would review its policy towards the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) after the next general conference in Bulgaria in October next year.

"If we were satisfied that substantial progress had been made in carrying through the reform programme we have set out, we would be willing to reconsider our decision to withdraw by the end of 1985," Sir Geoffrey said.

The United States is due to leave the agency this month, depriving it of about a quarter of its financial resources. The U.S. says UNESCO is badly run and con-

tains an anti-U.S. bias.

Britain announced on Nov. 22 that it would pull out of the 161-nation body, saying it was not satisfied it was getting value for money from membership. Britain contributes 4.6 per cent of the agency's \$391 million budget.

Sir Geoffrey said major areas in which further reform was needed included:

— Firm decisions on concentrating programmes and identifying priorities so as to make best use of limited resources.

— Fewer studies and more action-orientated projects of direct benefit to developing countries.

— A lower priority for the so-called new world information order.

— A reduction in the budget for 1986-87 to allow for any shortfall in funds resulting from changes in membership.

— A significant shift of resources and jobs away from the Paris headquarters into the field. Sir Geoffrey said that Britain would meanwhile continue to work "positively and vigorously" within UNESCO for reform.